

Thursday 23rd September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Ref: Home Reading

Reading at Wootton Park School

Reading is one of life's most essential skills. At Wootton Park School we hope that all children will develop a love of books, enthusiasm for promoting their reading skills and grow to be confident, competent readers. As a parent or carer, you play a vital role in supporting your child's reading development. Our partnership between home and school is essential for success with this life skill.

How Reading is taught at Wootton Park School

Your child's reading experience is much more than the reading book which comes home from school. Reading is happening all the time in our classrooms and across school. It is taught in Phonics sessions, Book Talk sessions as well as English lessons. Children are practising and using their reading skills constantly across all other subjects too.

How can parents and carers support children

Parents can support this reading journey through regular reading at home. Reading to and with your child every evening for at least ten minutes can make a drastic difference to a child's development. Here are some tips for reading with your child at home, including:

- Make time to read- even ten minutes a day.
- Choose different types of books.
- Take turns to read.
- Talk about the book- ask your child questions.

Please note, at the back of your child's reading book, there are a set of questions and activities you can do together to support the comprehension aspect of reading.

Expectations

Please can you ensure your child's reading diary and book are in their book bags **everyday**. Reading books will be changed on the days stated on your child's year group newsletter. However, if your diaries are in school everyday, we can do extra reading in school and also change books as and when needed. Please be advised that we may ask you to continue reading a book that you have read once, as we believe in a three read system.

1st read – focus on vocab and new word meanings.

2nd read – develop fluency and building up sight vocabulary.

3rd read – work on comprehension and answering questions which require deeper thinking.

Comprehension Bookmarks

To support reading at home each learner will receive a targeted reading bookmark. Each book mark has reference to the 'Pawsome Gang' with whom the learners are familiar. Each dog asks different questions which help to hone in on the skill being considered.

Choose one question from each dog after you have read to practise comprehension.

- 'Vocabulary Victor' helps us to answer questions based on the words used
- 'Retrieval Rex' helps us to find specific words which give us answers in the text
- 'Summarising Sheba' helps us to understand what we have read and to sum up the key points
- 'Author Arlo' helps us to consider the authors motives
- 'Inference Iggy' helps us to consider how and why questions
- 'Prediction Pip' thinks what might happen next, using clues from what has happened already
- 'Compare Cassie' (KS2 only) helps us to consider similarities and difference in the text

Home Reading Raffle

To help motivate and encourage learners to read at home we run a Wootton Park Reading Raffle. We encourage our learners to read every day for at least 10 -15 minutes, which needs to be recorded with a parent's signature in reading diaries. In order to encourage this, every learner who reads their school reading book **five or more times** a week, will have their name entered into the 'Reading Raffle'. The more they read, the more times their name will be put in the raffle, the more chance they have of winning. At the end of a term, a name will be pulled out of the raffle and the learner will receive a prize. There will be one prize per phase (KS1, KS2 and EYFS). Starting Monday 20th September until 15th October for the first term.

Books to read

Although we encourage our learners to read a wide variety of texts, including reading books for pleasure, it is really important for your children to read their reading book linked to their ability. Therefore, learners will be entered into the raffle when reading their levelled book five or more times a week, provided by the teacher. We also appreciate that as the learners get older, they like to read independently. Please can we ask that if your child does, still take the time to ask some of the comprehension questions found on the bookmark supplied.

Thank you for your continued support.

Happy reading and good luck!

Yours Sincerely,



Miss Natasha Pinner
Primary leader of Reading