

Learning to Read in Reception



Helping your child learn to read

When your child starts school we assess your child's readiness to read and reading skills already acquired. We frequently re-assess your child to decide the appropriate books for him or her. We assess your child in the following areas:-



Readiness to read

- Can she talk about her favourite stories?
- Can she talk about stories we share together in school
Does she know how to hold a book?
- Can she turn the pages correctly?
- Does she know the difference between print and pictures?
- Can she point to the words as we read?

Reading

- Can she retell a story and predict words and phrases?
- Can she read keywords consistently in a story?
- Can she read a simple text?

Phonics

- Can she recognise letter sounds in her name?
- Can she recognise all letter sounds in the alphabet?
- Can she recognise letter names?
- Can she hear initial sounds in words?



Reading in school

The children are constantly learning and developing their reading skills in class. We read and share big books, play word games, read signs and notices, read simple instructions and develop phonic skills. We have regular sessions in the library for the children to share and enjoy lovely books. We also use information technology. In the classroom we have talking books, phonics and keyword games on the computer. We have a variety of story tapes for use on the listening centre. Your child will read their reading book to us twice in a week. When they are ready to start reading they will bring home a hard read, an easy read and a library book. We have a wide variety of lovely books written for younger children in Reception. We hope you enjoy these books.



Phonics

Phonic knowledge and skills are an important part of learning to read. At Ladybrook we use the "Just Phonics" scheme. Children learn sounds and corresponding letters using picture prompts. They also learn to write the letters at the same time.

A new sound is taught every day and sounds are taught in a specific sequence so that children can very quickly start to read simple words. You can help your child by looking around you for lots of things beginning with these sounds and playing "I Spy".

(NB For order of sounds, refer to Phonics Development Book page 4)



Keywords

The children all have an envelope with keywords which they will use whilst reading Stage 1 and Stage 2 books from the Oxford Reading Tree. They will gradually get new words. Please use the words to play games matching them to the text in the book or for making sentences. They are not supposed to be used as a test! This will put your child off reading. As the children progress in reading, they will bring home keyword sheets in their diaries.

Reading At Home

- Read the book together
- Let your child try by him/herself
- Can they spot, name initial sounds?
- Please encourage your child to point to each word as they read
- As they progress, can they tell you odd words from each page?

Please share your child's reading book more than once. First share just the pictures without the text, discuss all you can see.

Reading Diaries

Please use the home/school diary to communicate with us. Write your comments or just sign and date when your child has read with you. If you have an important message for us please put it in the message tray at the start of the day.



We value your support with your child's reading. Please come and see us if you ever have any queries or concerns.

Thank you

Mrs Griffiths