



Developing Together for Tomorrow's World

September 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,



We are writing to inform you that the school has purchased and will be implementing a new systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) programme called **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised**. This programme aims to teach early reading and spelling to EYFS and KS1 pupils. It also includes a structured phonic intervention for pupils that have not passed their phonic screening check or are not yet fluent readers.

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds is a complete teaching programme, which is fully resourced and sets expectations of progression that are aspirational yet achievable. In order to maximise the opportunities for all pupils we have purchased beautiful new resources, including over 2000 new books and all staff have received the applicable training.

Children in EYFS and KS1 will work through the entire Little Wandle Programme until they can successfully apply their phonic knowledge and blending skills to read fluently. Pupils in KS2, that are not applying their phonic knowledge to their reading, will continue to learn phonics by following the 'Rapid Catch Up' programme. Some pupils will be accessing phonics through a specially devised 'SEND' programme. All pupils need to learn to read as quickly as reasonably possible, so they can move from learning to read, to reading to learn, giving them access to the 'treasure house' of reading.

Reading Practice

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will also take part in reading practice sessions using our brand-new books published by HarperCollins for Little Wandle. Reading practice sessions are taught in small groups, three times a week using a phonics book that has been carefully matched to each pupils' phonic ability. Each session has a different reading focus. In the first reading session we will work on decoding (sounding out) the words to read; in the second session we work on prosody (reading with expression); and in the third session we will look at comprehension (understanding what we have read).

This reading practice book will then be sent home for pupils to practise with parents / carers. This will be the pupils' 'Phonics Book'. **Please remember that the pupils will be very familiar with this book and should be reading it fluently, with prosody, and with 95% accuracy.** The more pupils see words, the more they begin to read them automatically without having to sound them out.

Pupils in KS2, who are **not yet** reading fluently and accurately, will also be given a 'phonics book' or a 'fluency book' matched to their reading ability. This will replace the coloured book banded books. Pupils in Year 3 and 4 will have access to a new range of fluency books. Once pupils reach Level 10, they will become a 'free reader' and choose books out of their class library, or the school library.

All pupils will receive a second book, which will be a 'Book to Share' book. In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The 'book to share' book is one they have chosen from the school library for you to enjoy together.

Whilst we assess the pupils, your child will only bring a 'Book to Share' book home. Your child is still reading in class with an adult, 1:1 or in a group, which will be recorded in their reading record.

Book Charges

We have spent a lot of money updating our book stocks and purchasing new resources. Therefore, any books that are not returned to school after 1 reminder from the class teacher, or any damaged books will incur a £5 fee to replace the book, as this will have a detrimental impact on our teaching of reading with other pupils.

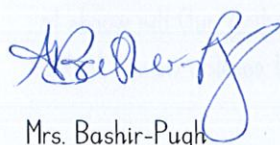
Supporting Phonics at Home

We will be offering a Parent Phonics Workshop, so please keep an eye out for further information on how to support your child with phonics. In the meantime, please visit the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds website for further information: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

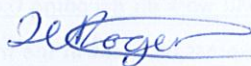
On the website, you will also find a grapheme information sheet which can help you with formation and pronunciation. There are also many supportive videos on the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds website, (see the link above), and our school website, to help with pronunciation, formation and how to support reading. Please take a look. We hope you and your child enjoy reading together at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

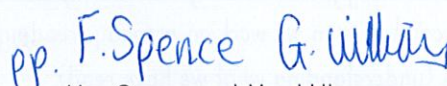
Kind regards,



Mrs. Bashir-Pugh
Headteacher



Mrs. Rogers
Assistant Headteacher
(Reading)



Mrs. Spence and Mrs. Williams
KSI Phase leaders
Phonics Leads