



St Mary's and St John's CE School

"With God, all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)

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Wisdom Service Hope

Principal: Martin Serrão BA, MEd (Camb)

Tuesday 1st October 2019

Dear Parents and carers,

Home Reading

Reading is crucial to the all-round progress of every child. As well as being vital to the development of their writing, its many benefits include the following:

- It is fun
- It is entertaining
- It aids relaxation
- It teaches children about the world around them
- It improves their vocabulary
- It helps them to develop empathy
- It improves their concentration.

We are therefore keen to work in partnership with you in developing this skill for the benefit of the children.

To facilitate this, we are launching an exciting new reading journal in all year groups (from Nursery to Year 6). This will be used as an important part of the children's regular home learning. The reading journal will contain guidance for adults on expectations for each year group and the number of entries required (see table attached). For some year groups, staff may also include a recommended reading list and ideas for activities that children could include in their journal to make it more interesting. To make this partnership operate as effectively as possible, we ask that you review and sign the journal on a weekly basis.

The reading journals will be checked every week on a day specified by the class teacher. It is therefore vital that they have been fully completed, signed and are brought in to school that day. There will be an expectation that entries will be completed to the best of a child's ability, using good grammar, punctuation and presentation. **The children should cover their journals this weekend** with any suitable material or covering that reflects their interests.

It is very important for us to work with parents and carers to ensure that this home learning system for reading is successful, therefore if you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher or send them via email to a member of the leadership team.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation and support.

Kind regards,

Mr Patterson

Acting Head of Primary

SMSJ Reading Journals

Year Group	Entries
N	Free Reader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily sharing/reading of book ● A minimum of 1 adult comment each week ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
R	Free Reader or/ and Reading Scheme Book (if appropriate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily sharing/reading of book ● A minimum of 2 adult comment each week ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
1	Reading Scheme Book <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult comments each time they read during the week ● At least 3 comments per week but daily reading ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
2	Reading Scheme Book <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult comments each time they read during the week ● At least 3 comments per week but daily reading ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
3	Reading Scheme Book <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult comments each time they read during the week ● At least 3 comments per week but daily reading Free readers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A total of 3 comments per week ● Children can write 1 comment a week instead of one of the adult entries (E.g. 2 adult comments and 1 child comment) ● Adult to continue to hear child read ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
4	Free reader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A total of 3 comments per week ● Children to write 1 comment a week instead of one of the adult entries (E.g. 2 adult comments and 1 child comment) ● A minimum of 2 adult comment each week ● Adult to continue to hear child read ● Child to write short review at end of book ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
5	Free Reader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A total of 3 comments per week ● Children to write 2 comment a week instead of the adult entries (E.g. 1 adult comment and 2 child comments) ● A minimum of 1 adult comment each week ● Adults to continue to hear child read ● Child to write short review or complete 1 reading task at end of book ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day
6	Free Reader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A total of 3 comments per week written by the child ● Adults to hear child read fortnightly ● Child to write short review or complete 1 reading task at end of book ● Adult to sign reading journal in time for specified day