



Friday 1 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Supporting your child with Reading in Reception

At SMSJ it is our priority to get children to develop and improve their reading skills as soon as possible to help them progress not only in English but also in all other areas of learning.

As part of our phonics programme at SMSJ your child has been enrolled in *Bug Club Phonics*. Your child's teacher will assign reading books aligned with your child's phonics knowledge. As their phonics knowledge increases, they will progressively move through the bands of books.

In order for children to learn how to read, and to enjoy it, it is vital that they practice and are exposed to reading as much as possible in Early Years. **The expectation is that they read through at least one book a week online and one book from school.** As children progress the number of books allocated each will increase later in the year. This year, reading will be logged and tracked using an online reading record called *GoRead*.

Reception pupils will be allocated a minimum of **one book a week to read online** through *Bug Club Phonics*, as well as phonics games and videos to help your child revise and consolidate the sounds which they have learnt in school that week.

In Reception, the expectation is for children **to read for at least 15 minutes a day at home**. This activity should be logged onto *GoRead* for the class teacher to monitor. Regular home reading should be a pleasurable experience as well as helping your child progress to a level where they can read independently. *Bug Club Phonics* helps to engage children with reading as they win rewards and unlock interactive games the more books and quizzes which they complete, therefore encouraging them to read more frequently.

### How to use Bug Club Phonics to read books online:

- Please log in using your username and password.
- Your child's books can be found under the tab 'My Stuff'.
- Click on the book to open it.
- Read and work through the activities on the front page before reading the book.
- Click on the icon of the alien with its eyes open and work through the interactive activity before reading the book.
- Once finished, the alien's eyes should close, indicating that you have fully completed the activity.
- Read through the book with your child, supporting them with where necessary.
- Complete the quiz on the last page of the book (found when you click on the alien).
- To aid your child's comprehension skills, please work through the *Story comprehension* guides found at the back of the book.
- Once the book is fully read and all quizzes have been completed the book will move out of 'My Stuff' and will be stored in 'My Library' for your child to access and re-read at any point they want in the future.



### How to log reading with GoRead:

- Daily reading activities should be logged using your online reading record, GoRead. This can be accessed both from a computer browser or a smartphone.
- Please log in using your username and password.
- Click on the book your child has been assigned.
- Here you will be able to make comments about your child's reading for the teacher to see, you can log any tricky words your child has encountered and make a note of how many pages your child has read.
- Reading activity will be monitored by your class teachers and 'Gems' will be issued as rewards for regular reading. These gems can be used to unlock online reading games such as 'Top Trumps'.
- For more information on how to download and use *GoRead* works please refer to the link below:

[GoRead Parents \(go-read.co.uk\)](http://go-read.co.uk)

All usernames and passwords have been sent home inside your child's homework book. If you have any questions about log-in details please contact your child's class teacher.

To find a list of age appropriate, current and engaging books for your child to read alongside the books provided by school please refer to the lists provided by *The Reader Teacher* and *Booktrust*:

[Best Books for Reception | Ages 4-5 | The Reader Teacher](#)

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/100-best-books/>

Thank you for working in partnership with us to help your child become a fluent early reader.

Yours faithfully,



**Miss C. Ciapryna**

Phonics and Early Reading Leader