



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear parents and carers,

### Phonics and Reading Books

As you may already be aware, due to updates from the DfE, we have now moved to a new phonics programme – Essential Letters and Sounds. This new phonics programme will support your child in making quick progress to become fluent and confident readers. To best support us in teaching your child how to read we ask that your child reads the decodable text provided by the school 4 times across the week at home. Spending 10 minutes a day reading with your child will hugely support them in their journey to becoming an independent reader. We will be changing children's books once a week on Fridays. This allows your child to re-read each text several times building their confidence and fluency. This is especially important as they begin to learn that the sounds within our language can be spelt in different ways. If you would like guidance on how to pronounce the sounds (phonemes) when reading with your child please refer to these support videos that can be found on our school website:

<https://www.stockwell-pri.lambeth.sch.uk/school/learning/phonics/>

**Please ensure that your child's decodable reading book and reading journal are in school every day so that your child can be read with at school and the books can be changed on a Friday.**

Your child will also choose a sharing book to take home weekly on a Friday. These books may not yet be decodable for the children and are a sharing book. Sharing books are there for you to read with your child, helping us to instill a love of reading from the very beginning of their reading journey. These could be read together with your child reading the words they are able to decode or could be read to your child. If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

We will be inviting parents to further parent phonics workshops that will be held after half term. Please do look out for invitations to these workshops which will guide you further in supporting your child to make quick progress in becoming fluent and confident readers.

Yours sincerely,

Alice Mansell  
Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning

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