



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we will start sending home reading books for you to share with your child. To begin with the books may have little or no words in, which encourages the children to build on their language and communication skills as well as developing comprehension by discussing what is happening in each picture.

Please comment in the green reading records each time you have shared the book and listened to them read. When looking at the book with your child, please discuss the front and back cover and ask them to explain what is happening on each page using a variety of questions. Once you have finished looking at the book together you could talk about the structure of the book (beginning/middle/end) and the main characters and events. This will build up their understanding of stories as a basis for future reading. Enjoying and sharing books leads to children seeing them as a source of pleasure and interest and motivates them to value reading. It is therefore really important that you make time to look at reading books together at home, just ten minutes a day makes such a difference.

The 'Letters and Sounds' document advises that reading books with words and sentences are to be sent home once a child has a good understanding of the initial sounds and what sounds the letters make, and is able to blend and segment sounds. We have assessed each individual child and will be sending home a reading book that is suitable for them.

We appreciate your cooperation with this and hope you really enjoy reading with your child! Hopefully we have explained the process clearly, but if there are any further questions then please speak to a member of staff in Class 1.

Mrs Miles, Mrs Patterson, Mrs Baess