



# Calverton Primary School

## Home Reading

### Parent Information



Dear Parents/Carers of \_\_\_\_\_,

We are excited to let you know that we are starting a new home reading system. Reading is an essential life skill and we are going to be relentless in our ambition to make sure all of our children enjoy reading to the highest possible level.

Home reading is a great opportunity for families to share the enjoyment of reading with children and spend quality time together. By working together we believe that this new process will grow children's confidence and create an excellent culture of reading in the school.

Please take time to carefully read the information below. I will make sure that I am available at the front school office on Monday 09<sup>th</sup> May after school with Sarah Barlow, our reading leader, to meet parents who wish to talk through this information.

We will also provide parent workshops in the last 2 weeks of term to support parents in their work with children at home. More information will be sent out next week for these sessions.

We have completed some reading assessments and your child is working at \_\_\_\_\_ on our Target Tracker system. This means that they will be working at \_\_\_\_\_ on bug club or choosing a book from \_\_\_\_\_ box in class.

Please read the steps below linked to our new reading system:

- 1) Your child is coming home with a new book bag. This will contain a reading book or bug club information. It will also contain a bookmark with some helpful tips to support reading
- 2) We ask that children read every day for 20 minutes and that this is marked in reading records that the children already have
- 3) **On Monday** children will receive a comprehension book. Children will not be able to change their book until they complete an activity in this book

Please note that we will be tracking books to ensure that children are reading regularly. We cannot stress enough about the importance of reading.

We ask that you help us teach the children to take care of the books – we will have to ask for family support in the cost to replace books that are lost.

Thank you for your time and support and we look forward to seeing you over the next few week

Miss R Speed

Head of Quality of Education

## 7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)**



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2 Ask your child lots of questions**



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read**



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read**



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read**



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family**



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7 Maintain the motivation to read**



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'