

8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently received a few queries about reading, either through class teachers or your child's reading record. I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify what reading looks like in Key Stage 1 and explain why certain approaches are used.

### **Repeated Reading**

Some parents have asked why their child is reading the same book more than once at home. This is part of an important stage in developing reading fluency, which bridges the gap between phonics and comprehension.

Fluent readers can read smoothly, accurately and with the natural rhythm of spoken language. Research shows that fluency is best developed through repeated oral reading — reading the same text several times. This practice not only strengthens decoding skills but also helps children tackle more challenging and unfamiliar texts as they progress.

Below are the expectations for reading in each year group:

### **Year 1**

- Children take part in daily phonics lessons at school.
- Each Friday, one decodable ELS phonics book is sent home.
- Please read this same text repeatedly with your child throughout the week.

Re-reading familiar texts in Year 1 helps build confidence and encourages children to read aloud with greater ease and enjoyment. Developing a love of reading supports children in learning to decode words, and confidence plays a big part in that.

You may notice that your child finds their home reading book easier than expected. This is intentional — we want them to practise blending sounds within words and experience success as a reader. Every book is carefully matched to your child's current reading ability to ensure steady progress and enjoyment.

### **Year 2**

- If your child is still reading a decodable ELS phonics book, the same approach as Year 1 applies.
- Children who are now following a ZPD (Accelerated Reader) programme continue to revisit phonics and spelling through ELS Spelling, delivered three times a week.

In Year 2, the focus shifts more towards developing fluency. Throughout the week, pupils take part in repeated reading and verbal discussions about the texts to strengthen both fluency and understanding.

At home, please encourage your child to read their book more than once. This helps them to develop an awareness of what fluent reading sounds like and supports comprehension.

Once your child can confidently answer retrieval questions about the text and demonstrates good understanding, please let them know they are ready to complete the quiz. Quizzes take place either at the start of the school day or during phonics/independent reading time.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop a love of reading. Your encouragement makes a significant difference to their progress and enjoyment.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Mrs Makin  
Head of EYFS and KS1