



Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you are keeping well and that your children have settled in well to their new classes.

As it is the start of the year, we wanted to clarify how you can support your child with reading at home and which books will be sent home with. Starting this week, your child will be sent home with two books every Friday:

- A decodable book
- A sharing book

### **Decodable book**

During the first two weeks of term, we have carried out phonics assessments and we have allocated each child with a decodable book, which your child will bring home every Friday. This will be either be linked to the phonics that has been taught in class that week or a different book matched to their sound knowledge. Your child should be able to read most of the words in this book with support. The decodable books are labelled with a white sticker so that you can identify them. Your child will keep this book for a week; it will then be changed on Friday as part of the weekly phonics teaching. **Please make sure that your child returns their decodable book to school every Friday.**

To best support us in teaching your child how to read, we ask that you read the decodable book **at least four times across the week**. Spending 10 minutes a day reading with your child will hugely support them in their journey to becoming an independent reader. Re-reading and revisiting the same book are especially important as they begin to learn that the sounds within our language can be spelt in different ways. A key part of learning to read is that children re-read words and sentences that they can decode (sound out) until they are fluent. By reading texts several times, children have the greatest opportunity to achieve high levels of fluency. The texts sent home are carefully matched to the teaching taking place in school. Your child will be practising what they have been taught in school, with you at home. We will only ask children to read books independently when they can decode these by themselves.

### **Sharing book**

Your child will also bring home a sharing book. These might not yet be decodable but are there for you to read with your child, helping to instil 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 you can read them to your child. **Please make sure that your child returns their sharing book to school every Friday.**

If you have any questions or queries along the way, please do not hesitate to contact me or speak to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Robinson  
Wellbeing and Phonics Lead

**Nurture, Enrich, Inspire**