



# St. John's CE Primary School

Growing and learning together  
Sharing the love of God

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Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here at St John's, we want to provide engaging books for you and your child to enjoy reading at home together! Recently, we have been re-organising the reading books in our library to ensure they develop the children's segmenting and blending skills, in line with their phonics, as well as encouraging a love of reading. The library has been changed around so the books are now in sets instead of colour bands.

### **'School Reading' Book (Fully decodable book)**

Children will now be bringing home books that have been individually matched to their phoneme-grapheme correspondence. This book is known as 'fully decodable' which means that the children have been taught and are confident with the sounds and tricky words. They will be expected to keep their book for a minimum of **two reads** which will enable them to read and re-read it.

The first read should focus on sounding out, blending and reading the tricky words. The second read should focus on fluency, expression and understanding of the text. Please support your child to develop their reading skills by asking them questions about what they have read. The 'Help Your Child with Reading,' booklet, sent home previously and also available on our website, offers lots of example questions that you can use for ideas. Both reads will be counted towards the Reading Challenge, as long as they take place on different days.

In Reception, to support with book changes each day, please add your child's book bag to the green box if it needs to be changed or the red box if you are still reading the book. Boxes will be available at the gate each morning.

### **Sharing Book**

After February half term, your child will also start bringing home a sharing book. This book will not always be fully decodable and will expose your child to sounds across the phase they are being taught in school.

### **Love of Reading Book**

Every Friday, the children are able to choose their own book to bring home and share with you. Please ensure this is in school ready to swap each week. In Reception, please change it more often if you'd like to from the selection of books in the Reception library.

### **Sound Cards**

Your child has sound cards in their book bags. Please keep these in your child's reading bag so they can be practised at school as well as at home with you. Practising these cards will support your child with the Phonics they are being taught at school and help them with their reading.

If you have any questions or queries regarding reading books at home, please speak to a member of staff.

Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Yours sincerely

Kendall Stuart-Smith  
English Leader



Diocese of Salisbury  
Academy Trust  
*'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'*

