

Dear Parents and Carers,

Below is some information for reading at home.

What books will my child be bringing home with them?

Phonics 'Mini-Book'

For children who are at the very start of their reading journey and who are still working within Level 2-6 on the Twinkl Phonics scheme (mostly pupils in Reception and KS1), they will bring home a 'Mini-Book'. This 'Mini-Book' matches the sounds and tricky words that they have learnt that week. This means that your child should be able to read this book without support.

Rhino Readers book – sent home from Autumn Term 2

We have a colour book band system, which, at the start, is organised into Phases which match our Phonics Scheme. More information about this can be found in the table below.

For pupils in Reception and KS1, this book will match their Phonics stage.

The book will MOSTLY contain sounds and tricky words (words which cannot be 'sounded out') which means that your child should be able to read most of the text without support.

Whilst your child may not know all of the sounds within the book, this provides a level of challenge.

We are hoping to send Rhino Reader books home from Autumn Term 2.



Looe Primary Academy Book Bands

Colour	Twinkl Phonics Level	Rhino Reader	Expected Year Group
Lilac	Level One		Nursery
Pink A	Level Two (Phrases and Captions)	2A	Reception
Pink B	Level Two (Sentences)	2B / 2C	Reception
Red	Level Three	3A / 3B / 3C	Rec/Y1
Yellow	Level Four	4A / 4B / 4C	Rec/Y1
Light Blue	Level Five (Digraphs)	First Read / 5A	Y1
Green	Level Five (Split Digraphs)	5B	Y1
Orange	Level Five (Alternative Pronunciations)	5C	Y1/Y2
Turquoise	Level 6	6A	Y2
Purple	Level 6	6B	Y2
Gold	Level 6	6C	Y2
White	Level 6		Y2
Lime	Level 6		Y2/Y3
Brown			Y3
Brown Plus			Y3+
Grey			Y4
Grey Plus			Y4+
Dark Blue			Y5
Dark Blue Plus			Y5+
Dark Red			Y6
Dark Red Plus			Y6+

Rhino Readers and Mini Books

There has been a huge investment made into Rhino Readers and Mini Books at Looe. The children really enjoy these books and we are really lucky to be able to provide children with a book directly linked to their phonics level. Rhino Reader books have previously been going out each week for children to read at home. As we are having a slight change to our guided reading and will be using these books more often in school, these will not be sent home for at least Autumn term 1, except for Foundation children. Children will be sent home with a Mini Book directly linked to their phonics learning that week. We have made a big investment in these Mini Books so please make sure they are looked after and not damaged. We will not be able to replace damaged books.

Reading records

Just a gentle reminder to send your child in with their reading records every day.

How often will their books be changed?

Books will be changed once a week on a Friday. On this day they will receive their Mini Book to practise at home. It is really important to note that we encourage reading, reading and rereading the same book. This really does help to develop fluency, recognition, pace and confidence. Whilst we encourage pupils to read the books provided by school, we are of course very happy for pupils to read what interests them too at home! Developing children's pleasure for reading is very important.

How much do I help?

It is really important to give your child time to sound out a word before giving them the answer. We teach daily Phonics in Reception and Key Stage 1 which provides them with the ability to decode words and this remains a skill into Key Stage 2. We encourage you to ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding.

What should the routine be with reading at home?

We completely understand that life at home can be very hectic but you should try to read with your child three times a week. Don't be discouraged if you skip a day, just read to your child as often as you possibly can. Each pupil has a reading record which should be filled in each time you read. This record allows us to closely monitor your child's reading development. We encourage all pupils to read daily (approximately 10 minutes), whether this is reading to an adult or reading a book independently.

Here are some top tips for reading with your child:

-Make reading aloud feel like a treat. Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.

-Show curiosity about what you're going to read.

-Read through the story the first time without stopping too much. Let the story weave its own magic. On later readings you should provide opportunities for children to think and comment on the pictures, chat about the story 'I wonder why she did that?', link stories to own experiences 'This reminds me of when....' and to join in with the bits they know.

-Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't either!

The Department for Education have provided the following link for more guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read>

If you have any questions you are welcome to send me an email and I would be more than happy to support you.

Many thanks and happy, happy reading!

Jasmine Bolger

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