

27<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

Ref: 000169



## READING AT HOME: CHANGES TO HOME LEARNING

Dear Parent / Carer,

At St Chad's, teaching our children to become confident and fluent readers is of paramount importance. This year, we are transitioning over to a new phonics programme called [Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised](#).

### What is phonics and why is it so important?

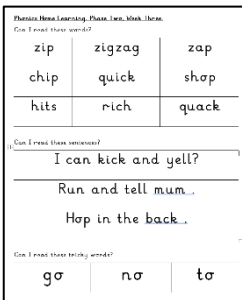
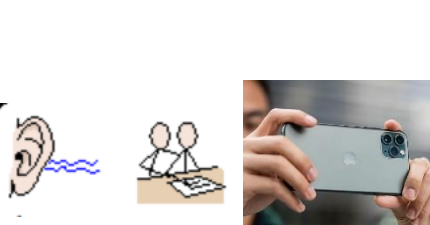
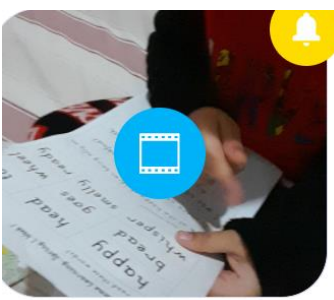
Phonics is a method of teaching children to read. Phonics works by breaking words down into individual sounds (phonemes). There are 44 different sounds (phonemes) in the English language. Learning to read with phonics is therefore a bit like learning a code, after learning just a few sounds, your child will be able to use this code to read hundreds of words. The more sounds your child knows, the more words they will be able to work out how to read.

### Supporting your child's reading at home

Although your child will be taught to read daily at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. Following the huge success of using Class Dojo to record and share your child's home learning, we are making some small amendments to our home reading programme. Every week, your child will now bring home:

### A reading practice worksheet:

Every Friday your child will bring home a phonics reading worksheet. This will consolidate the learning that your child has completed that week in their phonics. They should be able to read this sheet fluently and independently on their own. Please listen to your child read their worksheet, take a recording of them reading and load it to their portfolio page on Class Dojo.

✓ Your child will bring home their phonics reading sheet every Friday.	✓ Listen to your child read their worksheet sheet and take a video recording.	✓ Load your video recording to your child's portfolio on Class Dojo once a week.
		

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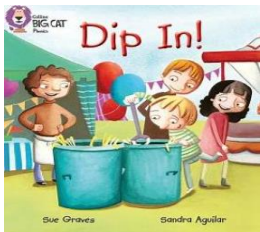



## A reading practice book:

Once a week your child will bring home a school reading book. This will be at the correct phonics stage for your child and will support their application of phonics to reading. Reading books are changed on different days in school. Your child will bring home a new school reading book on:

<b>Bears</b> (Miss Gilsenan)	Monday
<b>Crocodiles</b> (Miss Wright)	Wednesday
<b>Flamingos</b> (Miss Hewitt)	Friday
<b>Elephants</b> (Mrs Harley)	Friday

If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that the book is too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Remember to give your child lots of praise and encouragement when they read. If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. Please listen to your child read their book, take a recording of them reading and load it to their portfolio page on Class Dojo.

We ask that all children read their school book at least 3 times a week at home, however, we only need one recording a week to be submitted to Class Dojo.

✓ Your child will bring home their school reading book once a week.	✓ Listen to your child read their book 3 times a week.	✓ Take a recording of your child reading once a week and load it to their portfolio on Class Dojo.
		 

## Why do I need to record my child reading at home?

Video recordings are an incredibly useful assessment tool for teachers. They allow your child's class teacher to assess how well your child is using and applying their learning outside of school, independently.

*Please note: Once children have mastered phonics for reading, they will transition to spelling programme and will no longer be given a weekly phonics worksheet to read at home. Instead, there will be a focus on reading for pleasure and spelling. Currently, this impacts children in Mrs Harley's spelling group. If your child is in this group, a separate letter will be sent out to you outlining your child's weekly home learning.*

Should you have any questions about your child's home reading then please speak with your child's class teacher or Mrs Sohanpal. Mrs Sohanpal hopes to resume her parent classes and

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workshops soon (Covid permitting) and will be including sessions to help you support and develop your child's reading at home.

Kind regards,



Ms. K Leach  
Headteacher

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