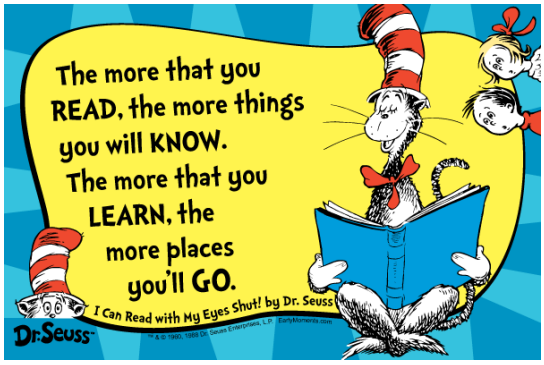
Wk Beg; 4th October



Dear Parents,

We have now issued every child in Early Years with a lilac reading book. The children will be able to become increasingly able to access these books independently as we progress through the Read, Write, Inc programme.

We would like the children to begin to read these books to you. These books contain single words only and the best way to encourage them to tackle these books is by getting them to say each of the pure sounds and then blending them together e.g. p-i-g makes 'pig' and t-o-p makes 'top' and so on.

Once they've had a go at blending these independently, if they turn the page over, they will get a picture clue. Repeat this process again and again until they can hear the blend of the word. This is a really important skill and is a key part to your child learning how to read alongside recognizing the letter sounds. Feel free to help your child to say a sound which they haven't learnt yet.

These books do not contain many words and it's important for them to go over the words in this book daily until hearing the blends of the words becomes second nature. Repetition of the books over and over again is key.

Once we have completed learning the Set 1 sounds of the RWI programme, the children will be assessed and regrouped as necessary. Also, this is when some children may be ready to move on to the next colour book band. We will let you know when your child is moving on to a new stage in their reading.

In addition, we will still continue to send home a couple of library books each week. These are for you to read to your child as they will not be able to read these books yet. Instead, these library books are sent to encourage their enjoyment of books and to introduce the children to the rich vocabulary of language.

We have sent each child a 'Reading Journal' home today too. Each time your child reads this lilac reading book to you, please date and initial the first box (the tree) every time they read. There is a lot more information on this in their 'Reading Journals.' Please only tick these boxes when your child reads to you rather than when you read to them – although this is still really, really important too! ☺

The one to one daily support you can give your child at home with their reading is invaluable and makes a massive difference to the progress they make in learning to read, even if it is just for 5 minutes a day. In order to achieve the end of year 'Early Learning Goal' for reading, it is essential that we work together at school and at home to support their learning. The above Dr Seuss quote sums up the importance of reading perfectly! PLEASE READ, READ, READ with your child!

Many Thanks,

The Early Years Team