

READING

As we are unable to hold a reading meeting this year due to the current conditions we have written down the ideas that would have been provided at the meeting.



Your child is bringing their first reading book home and this is an exciting time for them. They will want to look at their book with you and discuss it. Their first book will be a picture book, remember illustrations help to tell a story so spend time looking at them and talking about them together. The book will include a sheet with examples of questions you may like to use with your child. Books will come home on a **Monday** in a plastic reading folder, please return the book in the plastic folder to school on a **Thursday** so that it can be left for 72 hours then changed again on Monday.

Once your child brings home books with words in you must still remember to use the pictures, this is a strategy for reading. Talk about the title and what the story might be about by looking at the picture on the front cover before starting the story. Encourage your child to sound out the words when they need to, remember to ensure they use pure sounds as this will help them to decode the word. Read the book to your child, this is not cheating! Don't forget that you will still need to ask questions at the end of the story to help develop their comprehension and understanding of the story.

THE GOLDEN RULES OF READING:

1. Make reading a time of pleasure for you both.
2. Choose a time when you are not too busy and your child is not too tired for reading.
3. Learn to accept your child's efforts with praise.
4. Read books your child loves as well as their school reading book.
5. Focus on things that are right not on mistakes.
6. Keep reading to children even after they have learnt to read.
7. Stop when they have had enough - it is not a punishment.



HELPFUL HINTS:

1. Read to your child as often as possible.
2. Bring stories to life with lots of expression.
3. Read favourite books over and over again.
4. Go to the library and encourage your child to make their own selections.
5. Make sure your child sees you reading books, magazines, tablets - show them it is cool to read.



POETRY JOURNAL:

As well as a reading book your child will bring home their poetry journal each week. Rhymes, poems and fairy tales are particularly good for children to learn repeating patterns. This will help them to become more aware of texts and how they work, predicting what might happen next. Don't forget to learn the rhyme with your child each week as well as allowing them to draw a picture to match the rhyme.

Rhyme is an important part of reading so remember to help your child to discover rhyming words, not just when reading.