



## Springdale Primary School

**Parents Meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

**9am - KS1 Hall**

We would like to invite reception parents to come along to a parent information meeting about RWI and phonics. This will explain how we teach reading at school.

### **How we teach reading – answers for parents**

#### **The Read Write Inc. Phonics programme**

We have written this for parents. It explains how we teach reading using the *Read Write Inc.* programme.

Learning to read is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as we possibly can into making sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible.

We want your child to love reading – and to want to read for themselves. This is why we put our efforts into making sure they develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read.

#### **How will my child be taught to read?**

We start by teaching phonics to the children in the Reception class. This means that they learn how to 'read' the sounds in words and how those sounds can be written down. This is essential for reading, but it also helps children learn to spell well. We teach the children simple ways of remembering these sounds and letters. Ask them to show you what these are.

The children also practise reading (and spelling) what we call 'tricky words', such as 'once,' 'have,' 'said' and 'where'.

The children practise their reading with books that match the phonics and the 'tricky words' they know. They start thinking that they *can* read and this does wonders for their confidence.

The teachers read to the children, too, so the children get to know all sorts of stories, poetry and information books. They learn many more words this way and it also helps their writing.

## **How will I know how well my child is doing?**

We will always let you know how well your child is doing.

We use various ways to find out how the children are getting on in reading. We use the information to decide what reading group they should be in. Your child will work with children who are at the same reading level as him or her. Children will move to a different group if they are making faster progress than the others. Your child will have one-to-one support if we think he or she needs some extra help to keep up.

## **How do I know the teaching will be good?**

All the staff have been trained to teach reading in the way we do it in this school. We believe that it is very important that all the teachers and teaching assistants work in the same way. Senior teachers watch other teachers teaching to make sure that the children are learning in the way we want them to learn.

## **What can I do to help? Is there anything that I shouldn't do?**

Please come along to the meeting so that we can explain how we teach reading.

Your child will bring different sorts of books home from school. Your child will bring home two books each week. The first book is a library book. This is chosen by the child and is a book to share with your child. Your child is not expected to necessarily read this one by themselves, depending on the book that they have chosen. The second book will be a book matched to the phonics and reading level they are currently on. *Please* trust your child's teacher to choose the book(s) that will help your child the most.

Help your child to sound out the letters in words and then to 'push' the sounds together to make a whole word. Try not to refer to the letters by their names. Help your child to focus on the sounds. You can hear how to say the sounds correctly at this link: <https://ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/#lg=1&slide=2>

We know parents and carers are very busy people. But if you can find time to read to your child as much as possible, it helps him or her to learn about books and stories. They also learn new words and what they mean. Show that you are interested in reading yourself and talk about reading as a family. You can find out about good stories to read to your child here: <https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

## **Does it matter if my child misses a lesson or two?**

The way we teach children to read is very well organised, so even one missed lesson means that your child has not learnt something that they need to know to be a good reader. They will need to catch up when they return to school. If a significant amount of time is missed, your child may benefit in moving groups to another group that is covering the sounds that were missed.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

*Mrs Thomas and Miss Chumber*