



Church Hill Infant School

Church Hill Road, Thurmaston, Leicester LE4 8DE

Tel: (0116) 269 2083 FAX: (0116) 2692090

e-mail: admin@churchhill-inf.leics.sch.uk

website: www.churchhillinfants.co.uk

Headteacher: **Mrs M Bulsara**

Friday 16th September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading in the Foundation Stage

The Importance of Reading

At Church Hill Infants we believe that regular reading is one of the best things you can do for your child. Reading for pleasure (an adult or an older child reading a book to them) makes them good story tellers; it improves their vocabulary and makes them, in the future, imaginative and exciting writers. Your child practising their phonics by reading their banded book **every day** will mean that they become great readers very quickly – you will be amazed, if you do just ten minutes of reading every day, how quickly they will start to be able to read simple books to you.

Reading Journals

Coming home with your child today is a Reading Journal. This is to record **any** reading that your child does. Please see the front page of the Journal for some examples of what you could write.

Star Readers

To help get your child excited about reading we have a super reading incentive. Every week, we will count how many reads your child has recorded in their Reading Journal. This could be them reading to you, you reading to them, them reading a menu when you go out for dinner...if it is reading, then it counts! If your child has three or more reads in one week, then they will get a star and are entered into our monthly prize draw. At the end of each month we have a prize draw for each class, the winner getting to choose a new book to take home and keep! We have a **Star Readers** chart displayed in each class so the children can all see how well they are doing.

Individual Reading Books

The children will now each have their own reading book. It will have a coloured sticker on it, with books having more words in them as children become stronger readers. The first six levels are lilac, pink, red, yellow, blue and green. Your child may have a lilac book – these have no words in. The purpose of these books is to look at the pictures and ask your child to describe what they can see in the pictures, so they are 'telling' the story themselves. If your child has a pink book, don't worry about them being able to read the words straight away – they can see if they can spot some sounds they know, or any letters that they know from their name.

When reading with your children encourage them to:

- Sound out the words;
- Look for letters that they know;
- Talk about what they can see in the pictures;
- Help them to **enjoy** the book.





Church Hill Infant School

Church Hill Road, Thurmaston, Leicester LE4 8DE

Tel: (0116) 269 2083 FAX: (0116) 2692090

e-mail: admin@churchhill-inf.leics.sch.uk

website: www.churchhillinfants.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Bulsara

A good technique can be to read it through once yourself, and then get your child to read it again now they have some clues as to what to expect. The phonics meeting, on Friday 23rd September, will support you with ideas to help your child at home!

Reading books will be changed every day, so please ensure they are kept with their reading journals in their book bags **at all times**.

If you feel your child is ready to move to a new level please talk to the class teacher, or write a note in their Reading Journal. We always appreciate your input and support! We will be hearing the children read on a regular basis, and will make a note of how they did in the journal.

Thank you for your support.

Happy reading!

The Foundation Stage Team

