



Dear Parents

We have introduced a new scheme for younger children. The pupils in Reception and Year 1 have been split into small groups and every morning they work on the reading and writing skills along with *Fred*. I do hope your child has already told you about *Fred talk* and if not please ask them!

This new scheme was talked about at the curriculum meetings and we look forward to sharing your child's progress on Parent evenings.

We are continuing to send home the school reading books please continue to hear your child read as this is the very best way to support them. Year 1 pupils, when their book has been read and signed by parents (at back of Home school journal), can change their books at the beginning or end of the day. If you need any help with this please ask a member of staff or myself who would be willing to

See below some more information and if there is anything else you would like to know please ask...

What is RWI phonics?

Read Write Inc (RWI) is a phonics based programme which helps children learn to read whilst also developing a wide range of vocabulary and encouraging a love of stories. It was developed by Ruth Miskin and more information on this can be found at www.ruthmiskinliteracy.com .

Who is Read Write Inc. for?

The Read Write Inc. programme is for primary school children learning to read. Children will begin the programme in Year R and will remain on the programme until they are reading at expected year 2 level. Our aim is for most children to be off the scheme by the end of Year 2, however some children will remain on the scheme in Years 3 and 4.

How will it work?

Year R

Children will be taught a sound a day and will be assessed regularly by their class teachers. When they have reached an appropriate level they will be grouped according to their reading level, and will be taught for up to an hour, when they will start reading and writing alongside learning the new sounds.

Years 1 - 2

All children who are working at or below a National Curriculum level will be assessed regularly by the Read Write Inc Leader. The children will complete reading and writing activities for an hour each day, grouped according to their reading level. Children will be grouped according to their stage not their age, so classes will be mixed and taught by different teachers/teaching assistants. A few children who need extra support to maintain progress will work with a teaching assistant for an extra 10 minutes a day.

How do we know RWI works?

Schools embedding this programme have been recognised by OFSTED in the HMI 'Reading by Six Report' (November 2010) as an example of how the best schools teach reading.

What does the RWI teaching process look like?

Children are first taught the pure 'set 1 sounds' so that they will be able to blend the sounds in words more easily. In School we call this 'Fred Talk'. We do not use letter names at this stage; we simply focus on the sounds that are used to sound out words. At this stage, the children are not only taught the 'sound' the letter makes, but also how to form the letter, using a rhyme and picture prompt

How can I help my child at home?

- Establish a routine to include reading regularly throughout the day and the week.
- Have fun with the Fred talk at home e.g. where is your c-oa-t? Time for b-e-d!
- Encourage your child to "Fred Talk" or sound out any unfamiliar words
- Recognise "red words" together- "Remember you can't Fred a red! "
- Comment on your child's Home School Journal to keep a dialogue going with the class teacher
- Read as many stories to your child as you can. Traditional tales, stories from other cultures, poetry, their favourite story- talk about the stories with them
- Explain the meaning of new words.

❖ *Most importantly show the fun that can be gained by listening to stories!*