

**WEOBLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURTON WOOD
WEOBLEY
HEREFORD
HR4 8ST**



**Telephone: 01544-318273
Email: admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk**

**Head of School
Mr S Warrell BA (Hons), PGCE**

26th January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to thank you for supporting us in promoting reading, this is helping the children develop an essential lifelong skill, which cannot be achieved in school alone. Many of the children have a continued or renewed enthusiasm for reading, and are excited to share the amount of reading that they are achieving at home by showing us their reading diary or bookmark.

It is the school target that children read at home at least four times per week – many children are exceeding this and reading every day. This is having a positive impact on the children's reading ability and confidence.

Unfortunately, not all children are reading this regularly at home. We urge all parents to please support your child and give them this lifelong skill. We only ask that you listen to your child read for ten minutes at a time, four times per week and sign their reading diary or bookmark.

Signing their diary or bookmark reinforces to all of our readers, whatever their ability, that you as parents value reading as much as we do as a school and are invested in their education and future.

We will be celebrating our successful home readers by choosing a number of children each week and naming them as our Reading Champions. All of our reading champions will be entered into a grand draw at the end of the school year and one lucky winner will win a £100 Amazon Voucher.

For those children using the Read Write Inc. Phonics scheme, we have purchased e-Books to complement the scheme. We encourage parents to log on to the e-Book library and practice reading their book. Details of how to login, along with password and username will be stuck into your child's reading record. Included with this letter is information that explains Read, Write Inc. in more detail.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Stephen Warrell'.

Stephen Warrell

Head of School

**WEOBLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURTON WOOD
WEOBLEY
HEREFORD
HR4 8ST**



**Telephone: 01544-318273
Email: admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk**

**Head of School
Mr S Warrell BA (Hons), PGCE**



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.

We also use a reading test so that we can make sure that all our children are at the level that they should be for their age compared to all the children across the country.

In the summer term, the government asks us to do a phonics check of all the Year 1 children. That gives us extra information about their progress. We will talk to you about how well your child has done, and especially if we have any worries at all.

**WEOBLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURTON WOOD
WEOBLEY
HEREFORD
HR4 8ST**



Telephone: 01544-318273

Email: admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk

Head of School

Mr S Warrell BA (Hons), PGCE

How long will it take to learn to read well?

By the end of Year 2, your child should be able to read aloud books that are at the right level for his or her age. In Year 3 we concentrate more on helping children to understand what they are reading, although this work begins very early on. This happens when the teacher reads to the children and also when the children read their own story book.

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.

If you are worried about the teaching or you have any questions, please come to school and talk to us.

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

Your child will be assigned an e-book online, which is a book they will have already read in school with an adult, in a group. The book will be very familiar to them when they read it to you at home, so please praise them as much as possible, as we want to build their confidence to read a text they know, without struggling with unknown words.

Your child will also be bringing different sorts of books home from school. *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>

Sometimes your child might bring home a picture book that they know well. Please don't say, 'This is too easy.' Instead, encourage your child to tell you the story out loud; ask them questions about things that happen or what they think about some of the characters in the story.

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?

It matters a lot if your child misses school. 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.

What if he or she finds it difficult to learn to read?

We want children to learn to read, however long it takes us to teach them. We will find out very quickly if your child is finding reading difficult. First, we move children to a different group, so that we can make sure that they have learnt

**WEOBLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURTON WOOD
WEOBLEY
HEREFORD
HR4 8ST**



**Telephone: 01544-318273
Email: admin@weobleyprimary.co.uk**

**Head of School
Mr S Warrell BA (Hons), PGCE**

what they need to know. If they still struggle, we give them extra time with an adult, on their own. These adults are specially trained to support these children. Your child will still be in the same group with the other children and won't miss out on any of the class lessons.

If we have any serious worries about your child's reading, we will talk to you about this.

Some children take a bit longer to learn to put sounds together to read a word, e.g. c-a-t to make the word 'cat'.

What if my child turns out to be dyslexic?

The way we teach reading is especially helpful for children who might be dyslexic. This is because we use a very well-organised programme that has a strong focus on phonics. This is very important for children who find learning to read difficult. If you are worried about your child, please come and talk to us.

My child has difficulty pronouncing some sounds. Will this stop him learning to read through phonics?

This isn't a problem for learning to read as long as we know what sound the child is trying to say. This is not something to worry about. Many children have a few sounds that they can hear clearly but find it difficult to say, particularly the l-sound, r-sound, w-sound, th-sound, s-sound, sh-sound and j-sound. Often they say a t-sound for the c-sound; "tttssh" for the s-sound; "w" for the r-sound and "r" for the l-sound. You can help your child by encouraging him or her to look at your mouth when you say the sound. Whatever you do, do not make your child feel a failure. They can easily learn to read, even if they find one or two sounds difficult to say.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns. We are here to help.