

And finally.



We want home and school to be united, each offering a unique contribution to reading development. The home can offer time, individual attention, consistent support and loving concern. School offers expertise, specialist teaching, a wide range of resources and a clear understanding of progression and the next step for the child. Between us the child should thrive.

We offer a range of additional reading leaflets focused at children at each stage of development as well as for children with special educational needs and the more able. We also run parent groups focusing on different aspects of supporting reading. Watch out for details.

Along with supporting skills teaching, children learn to read and get better at it with practice; hence the value of daily reading at home and at school.

We don't just want children to learn to read, we want them to become confident and enthusiastic readers; to feel the power of being literate.



Parents in Partnership

Reading
Together



"We want children to become confident and enthusiastic readers; to feel the power of being literate. "

Books and stories hold a world full of magic and imagination for us all. Becoming a reader provides the key to this world.



We believe that children should have access to books from the earliest age and many children come to school already having a rich diet of books at home. But whatever their experience we build upon the knowledge they have and help them to learn to read with confidence, accuracy, independence and real understanding. Learning to read well is a key to academic and social success.

At Shipway we have a real love of books and stories. We have a rich range of resources and give children the opportunity to read a breadth of books. We do not believe in using one reading scheme, which gives the impression that children have made rapid progress. We believe in offering children challenge and support as a recipe for success.

During the day all children are taught the skills for reading. We teach the mechanics: using phonics (sounds) and whole words to make sense of the printed world but primarily we help children to understand what they are reading; comprehension. The search for meaning is paramount. Why else would we read?

What you can do to best support your child to read confidently is to give them the opportunity to practise at home. The page opposite gives some tips to make this enjoyable and effective.

- ### The Golden Rules for Reading at Home
- ☺ Join the library for an endless supply of free books.
 - ☺ Set aside some time every day for reading. This is one of the most important things you can do to improve the educational chances for your child.
 - ☺ Read your child a story as well as listening to them read to you.
 - ☺ Make sure the school reading book comes home and back to school every day. Send them back to class if they don't have it.
 - ☺ Write something positive in the Reading Record Book. This isn't the place for negative comments. If you are concerned, speak to the teacher or write them a note.
 - ☺ It doesn't have to be a parent who reads with a child. It could be grandparents, uncles, aunts, neighbours, friends, older brothers or sisters. What they need is time and patience.
 - ☺ Find somewhere quiet. Not always easy but bedtime might be the solution.
 - ☺ Make the experience enjoyable and fun. If you are stressed or grumpy - don't hear the child read, you read to them. It will help calm you and won't be a negative experience for them. Children are experts at reading body language. If you are tense they will interpret this as poor performance on their part and they won't want to read.
 - ☺ Talk about the pictures and the story. Meaning is paramount and the pictures help to tell the story; never cover them up.
 - ☺ Talk about what might happen next. This is called prediction and is a vital skill.
 - ☺ Read for about 10 - 15 minutes maximum.
 - ☺ Praise, encourage and smile at their efforts.

