



Dear parents,

Reading

Your child will now have brought home a book banded book to read. This has been carefully chosen to match your child's reading fluency as well as their comprehension.

Once children reach KS2 in Year 3, the rate at which they change book band colour slows down. There is only one book band colour for each year group in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. This is because the focus at KS2 is on how children comprehend the text and how widely they read. Each book band has a range of genres and lengths for the children to explore and are carefully selected to complement the curriculum. They should also be compatible with the child's interest level, containing age appropriate themes that capture their imagination or interest.

You may find that your child can read their book banded book fluently so their focus should now be on reading a range of text types and fully understand what they have read, including being able to 'read between the lines', discuss the effect of the language on the reader and explain the meaning of words using the context.

Progress through the bands is not supposed to happen too quickly and it is important to ensure that children have a secure understanding of what they are reading. A child will not benefit from being rushed through books. It is not a race, it is a journey! Children learn to read at different rates just as they learn to do other things at different rates. If children are rushed through the books they will not achieve the enjoyment and understanding necessary. Books that they find too difficult can soon put them off reading.

The book band levels, with some 'tips' for parents, are included in your child's home/school diary and the colour that has been given to your child will have been dated by the teacher.

Your child will also have the opportunity to choose a book from our library. This enables them to have a free choice and follow their interests.

It is recommended that your child spends 20 minutes a day reading. This will make a huge difference to their fluency and accuracy, speed and vocabulary knowledge which will have a massive impact on not only their English but all other subjects at school.

Why can't my child skip 20 minutes of reading tonight?

Child A



Reads 20 minutes each day.

3600 minutes in a school year.

1,800,000 words!



Child B



Reads 5 minutes each day.

900 minutes in a school year.

282,000 words



Child C



Reads 1 minute each day.

180 minutes in a school year.

8000 words



If you have any concerns about the level of book band your child is reading, or would like more advice on how to support your child's reading at home then please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

#fletcher.

Mrs Fletcher