



Reading in Kestrel Class

It is wonderful to see the children making so much progress with their reading and phonics. They are all working so hard at their blending and segmenting, letter recognition and phonics.

There are many elements in your child's reading journey that are all extremely valuable and important.

Most important, is developing a love of books and stories. This can be done both through reading their own books, but also listening to stories read by others. I have attached a sheet of prompt questions that can be asked when listening to stories to develop comprehension skills. Children love to hear the same story repeatedly, often choosing favourites, and are then able to join in with these stories gaining more understanding each time it is read. The same applies to books at their own reading level – reading them several times allows them to gain confidence and fluency, thus developing their understanding that they **are** a reader and a story teller.

We teach a wide range of reading techniques and strategies in the classroom, including decoding words, recognising high frequency and tricky words, using picture clues, developing an awareness of punctuation, expecting sentences to make sense, poetry, fiction and non fiction texts, to name but a few.

The support with phonics and books at home is invaluable and very much appreciated. The aim of the scheme books that are sent home is to allow children to practice and develop the skills they have learnt in the classroom, developing fluency and confidence. Ideally, your child will be able to approach the book, reading with 90% accuracy (this may obviously vary when your child is first developing their phonic skills). The scheme books sent home are also intended to develop and reinforce a wide range of skills taught in the classroom and therefore may appear to vary. It is wonderful to hear fluency and story telling voices developing.

Thank you for your continued support

EYFS Team

