

# LUXULYAN SCHOOL

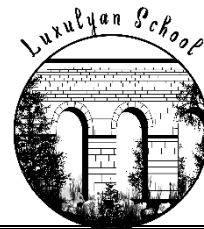
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Executive Head: Mr S Gynn

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2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Reading Book Update

As part of our review of Reading across the school, we are changing the books that children have as their school reading book. Your child will no longer have a colour book banded book; they will have a RWI BookBag Book.

Research on developing Early Reading tells us that it is important that reading books closely match the phonics knowledge that pupils are being taught and we need to be offering plenty of opportunities to practise reading and re-reading the **grapheme-phoneme**\* correspondences that they have learned – both at school and at home. Children need to hear a wide range of texts read aloud in the classroom and at home, including: stories, poems, rhymes and non-fiction to develop their vocabulary, language comprehension and love of reading.

We know that many of you have been asking to change the level of your child's book or change books more frequently, here are the reasons behind the decision.

### Changing Books More Frequently

The first, and only temporary, reason for your child having one book each week is the need for us to quarantine books on their return to school. With current Covid-19 procedures in place we need to ensure that we are changing books weekly and giving sufficient time before returning them to the school stock.

We are reading the companion books to the BookBag books in school and the themes of these stories are linked. We also change these school texts weekly at the moment.

Your child's RWI Bookbag book is a phonetically plausible text, this means that they have been taught all the letter sounds (phonemes) they will encounter in the book and we encourage the children to read these independently to you. It is so important that children read from books with the sounds they know while they are learning to read, we want them to succeed and be able to read the book fluently with comprehension and a storyteller voice.

Your child should read their books more than once each week.

**1<sup>st</sup> Read-** figuring out how to say new words; finding out meanings of new words. Using Fred Talk (sounding out) unfamiliar words. Might be in 'Robot Voice' - hesitant, sometimes monotone.

**Top Tip:** Use the inside front cover of the BookBag book to look at the story green words and red words that you will find in the story.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Read-** developing confidence and fluency: reading aloud in the same way you would speak, using a storyteller voice.

**Top Tip:** Use the 'retell the story' on the last page of the BookBag Book. Take turns retelling the story with your child.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Read-** comprehension: talking about the story, asking questions about the story; giving an opinion about the story.

**Top Tip:** Answer the 'Questions to chat about' inside the back cover of the BookBag book.

### **What to do if they get stuck on a word.**

If your child comes across a word they are unsure of, ask them to decode it using these 3 steps:

#### **Look for Special Friends - Fred Talk - Say the Word**

Special friends are any **digraphs**\* or **trigraphs**\* that make one sound, e.g. ay, ee, igh, ow...

Other reading activities that you can complete with your child throughout the week are below, we will be sending out some reading packs next week with extra resources you may find useful.

- Teach Your Monster to Read- every child has a school login to this fun app/ web based phonics game.
- RWI Phonics booklets- practice reading the sound, green words (words that you can sound out) and nonsense or alien words (words that are not real words)
- Tricky Red words (words that you can't sound out and have to learn by sight) for each year group
- Share home books with your child, children benefit so much from being read to by parents, siblings, grandparents, family friends...
- Whilst we can't visit our public libraries in the same way as we used to, we can still access some fantastic resources online. Visit the Reading Home Learning pages on the school website for links to Oxford Owl, Epic, Borrowbox and much, much more.

[https://luxulyan.eschools.co.uk/website/reading\\_home\\_learning/471447](https://luxulyan.eschools.co.uk/website/reading_home_learning/471447)

### **Year 2 Children with Accelerated Reader books**

Children in Year 2 who have an additional AR Reader book are able to change their book after completing a quiz. There will be an introduction to AR to follow, if you would like more information sooner you can find it on our school website. <https://luxulyan.eschools.co.uk/website/english/431547>

### **The Level of my Child's Book**

The children are assessed half termly into RWI phonic groups, their next assessment is 8<sup>th</sup> October. Each group has a colour and your child will be reading the colour BookBag book that corresponds to their RWI Phonics group in school.

When they returned to school, many children were understandably out of practice. When they are assessed next week they will be placed in the appropriate colour group for their ability, for many children this will be a move up now they are back to regular phonics lessons. The groups follow this pattern:

**Red - Green - Purple - Pink - Orange - Yellow - Blue - Grey**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Emma Williams  
English Subject Lead

**\*Grapheme-** how you write the letters  
**\*Digraph-** two letters one sound: ay, ee

**\*Phoneme-** what sound it makes  
**\*Trigraph-** three letters one sound: igh, ire