



Lime Wood Primary School



'To deliver a curriculum that is provided by good teachers underpinned by an effective blueprint for excellence in culture, behaviour, attainment and wellbeing – to find the champion in everyone'

22nd September 2023

Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home

Dear Parents, Carers & Families,

I am writing to you to share with you our systems for home learning.

Daily Reading

At Lime Wood Primary School, we value daily reading with your child/ren. When parents/carers read regularly with children in a positive and enjoyable way, it has been proven to benefit children by providing them with comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, build self-esteem, develop vocabulary, feed imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns. Therefore, we will be sending home a balance of books for early readers. These will include:

- a **reading practice book** matched to the child's phonic stage that they can read independently
- a **sharing book** that they can talk about and enjoy with their parent/carer.

Reading practice book:

Teachers will teach the children how to read the book in school, teaching decoding, prosody and comprehension skills to the children Monday - Wednesday. Your child will then bring this book home with them on a Wednesday evening for them to practice reading with parents/carers. Initially, these books may be wordless. We encourage children to look for words that contain a particular sound. They will then develop to being books with words and then sentences. The children should be able to read the practice book with developing confidence and fluency without any significant help. The parent/carer's role is to listen with interest and, most importantly, to encourage and praise, enthusiastically acknowledging the child's achievement (even if, at the early stages, this is only small). After the child has read the book, it may be helpful to talk about the book, but only so far as the child is interested. The parent/carer should keep the experience positive and avoid turning it into a test. Parents can expect to receive these books on **Wednesday afternoons, beginning on Wednesday 4th October**. This book must be returned to school the **following Monday**.




Sharing book:

If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. The desire of wanting to read will help with the skill of reading. To help foster a love of reading, children will take a book home that they can share and enjoy with their parent/carer. These books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story. Parents/carers should not expect their child to read this book independently and should not try to get their child to do so. The book is for the



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parent/carer to read to or with the child. Again, it is good to talk about the book with the child, but important not to turn the discussion into a test. The goal is enjoyment. Parents/carers can expect to receive these books on a **Friday afternoon (beginning 22nd September)** and will need to return them by the following Friday each week.

Please use the reading record to note anything that you would like to inform the teachers about with regards to your child's/children's reading.

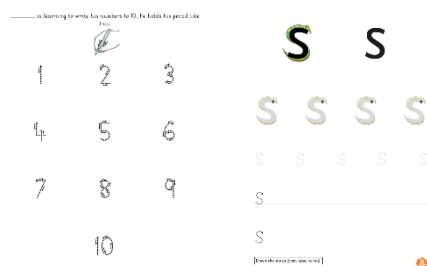
Expectations for completing the reading record:

Frequency	Children must read their reading practice book to an adult daily (from Wednesday to Sunday)
Responsibility	Parents/carers must sign the reading record
Type of comment	Date and signature (if you wish to add a comment, you may but this is not expected)
School systems	School adults will check to ensure that the books have been returned. If a book is not returned, the school will make contact with parents/carers and subsequently, it should be returned as soon as possible following this.

Due to spending a large sum of money on these books, there will be tight procedures in place to ensure their sustainable use for years to come. It is expected that the three books are kept in book bags every day. Please be aware that if your child loses or damages their book, you may be asked to cover the cost of the book (£4.95) and until that book is replaced or cost paid, your child will receive a photocopy replacement for any future books. We hope that you can understand and support this expectation.

Phonics

We will send out on Showbie a guide to parents each week about which graphemes and words the children will have learnt in school that week (from 29th September). This can be used for further practice at home. You can find out more about how to support your child with their phonics learning at our parent information workshop on Tuesday 10th October at 9am.



Name Writing, Letter Formation and Number Practice

In addition to daily reading, you can support your child by helping them learn to write their name and form numbers and letters. Attached to this letter is a guide you can use to support your child with this skill.



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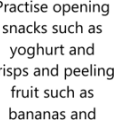






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Useful Skills

Don't forget to refer to our 'How you can help your child at home each week' guide.

How you can help your child at home each week?



-  Be able to use the toilet and wash their hands independently
-  Blow their own nose using a tissue and wash their hands afterwards
-  Show them how to hold a pencil correctly
-  Practice writing their name
-  Practice taking off and putting on their PE kit
-  Teach them to take off and put on their own coat
-  Read to them and foster a love of books
-  Use plasticine, dough, Lego or other pinching action to develop their finger strength
-  Make sure they can open their own lunchbox and drinks bottle
-  Practise opening snacks such as yoghurt and crisps and peeling fruit such as bananas and satsumas
-  Practice taking turns and playing independently
-  Encourage drawing & colouring in
-  Teach them to put their own shoes on (Velcro unless they can tie shoe laces)
-  Teach them how to use cutlery
-  Start practicing how to use scissors safely
-  Start to recognise patterns and numbers using dominos

If you have any further questions about our home learning approach, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Miss C Ingrams
Headteacher




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