



# Reading in Foundation at Montpelier



Here at Montpelier, reading is hugely important to us and is absolutely key to our children's development. We hope to encourage a lifelong passion for exploration and discovery into the world of fiction and non-fiction books through access to an array of authors and for them to explore their own likes and interests. In Foundation we base our learning and design our curriculum through our Class Authors and the texts that the children love and show a real interest in. We want children to enjoy reading, listening to stories and become confident readers - hopefully a passion that will stay with them for a lifetime.

Reading at school is only the start of how we can support our children through this adventure - there are many ways that you can support your children at home too and we will go into this in more detail at our Fun Phonics and Reading workshop in October. Reading and sharing stories should be a part of every child's daily life and this does not only include books but in the environment around us - we can read and recognise sounds everywhere - libraries, supermarkets, at home, train stations, on the bus - the list is endless.

Today your child will come home with a school library book and a reading diary to record their reading at home, plus we will record when they have been heard at school too. In Foundation the children change their library books on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please do not expect your child to be able to read these independently - these are to share and enjoy.

In the coming few weeks the children will start to come home with a banded book to read. We start on lilac - these books have no words and are vitally important to encourage an understanding of the story and for the children to think of their own ideas and predict what may happen and discuss characters and setting.

As we progress through our daily Phonics sessions, the children will begin to recognise sounds (phonemes) and blend them together - this is when they start to read - and it is amazing to see! We begin our Phonics at Phase 2 and we will go through all information you need at our workshop to help support your child but please do ask if you ever have any questions. As your child begins to understand the phonemes and start to blend they will bring home pink banded books - again changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Below is our school's book band colours so you are able to see the progress that they are making - we expect children to leave Foundation on yellow/blue band. Your child will also have a Guided Reading session led by a member of staff once a week and they will bring this book home to reread with you.

As a school, your child's reading diary is a way of us being able to communicate with you about your child's progress and likewise, how your child is finding reading at home. It enables us to help if there are specific aspects you may need support with so please look after them. We ask that children are supported to read at home on a minimum of three days per week (hopefully more)! Starting after the October half term we have reading celebrations with children in school who have read for the most amount of days at home - we will go into more detail at the workshop. Please see the example of a completed weekly reading diary on the reverse of this letter.

We hope you enjoy sharing your child's new books with them - reading should always be fun, exciting and never a chore so please do say if there is anything we can do to support you at home.



Date	Title	Comment
16.09.19	The Gruffalo	Tonight we shared the Gruffalo - Jack liked how clever the mouse was and wants to make Gruffalo crumble - was scared by the snake! Mum
17.09.19	Tap,Pat, Tap	Jack recognised t-a-p phonemes but struggled to blend them together. Said t-a-t we will work on end sound! Dad
19.09.19	Tap,Pat, Tap	Tired tonight so we read a page each - practiced blending and shared a magazine together! Mum
19.09.19	Thomas the Tank magazine	Loved making up stories about the trains and made up his own engines with names of new friends in class.
21.09.19	Elmer	Shared Elmer with Nan, talked about what could happen next and why he felt sad.
22.09.19	Sam's Pot	Wow - recognised p-o-t and blended the phonemes with the end sound! Brilliant Granny