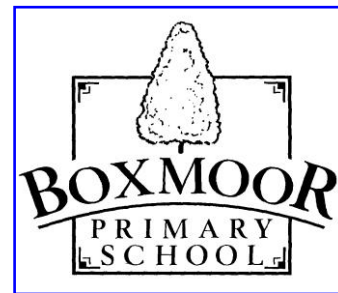


Supporting your child's Reading



Why is reading so important?

Reading is a vital tool for learning and for life. Reading not only helps us to widen our knowledge and experiences but also increases our confidence in many aspects of our lives.

Research shows that children who enjoy reading achieve better results at school.

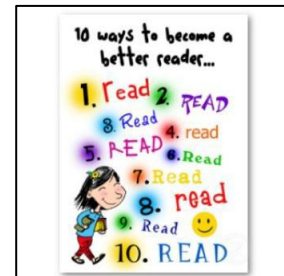
Helping children to make progress in reading is most successful when it is done in partnership between home and school. Any support you can give your child will improve their progress.

We appreciate that parents and other adults are more than willing to offer this support, but may sometimes be unsure how to go about it.

Here are some tips and advice which we hope you will find useful.

Please look at your child's reading journal for further advice or speak with your child's teacher.

Please help your child to become a successful reader.



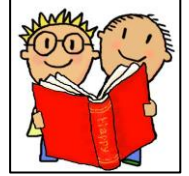
How often should you hear your child read?

When a child is first learning to read they need as much practice as possible.

In FS 2, Year 1 and Year 2 we would recommend your child reads out loud to you each day for 5/10 minutes.

In Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 we would recommend at least 10 minutes 3 x per week (as a minimum) is set aside for reading. By Year 5/6 as children become more fluent readers they may prefer to read by themselves. We would always ask that you support the development of your child's skills by discussing the book.

Please sign the reading journal each time you read with your child. This lets the teacher know that you are supporting at home. We will keep a check on reading journals over the year. We have explained to the children that reading at home is part of their homework and therefore if the journals are not signed we will be contacting you to ask if you require any further support.



How to help

- Find a quiet place free from other interruptions.
- Spend a few minutes discussing the blurb (information about the book) and front cover before you even open the book – What do you think this book is about?
- Help and support your child if they get stuck on any words. DO NOT simply tell them the words; encourage them to work it out by:
 - Sounding out the letter sounds
 - Using any picture clues
 - Using the context of the sentence to work out what would sensibly fit?
 - Rereading to check for meaning
- Ask your child questions to check their understanding of the text
 - What was your favourite part?
 - How did you feel about the main character?
 - Which words show you that the character is happy?
 - What might happen next?

Give your child lots of praise and encouragement.
Remember it takes lots of practice.

