



THE PEGASUS ACADEMY TRUST



WHITEHORSE MANOR
INFANT SCHOOL



ECCLESBOURNE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHITEHORSE MANOR
JUNIOR SCHOOL



BEULAH INFANT &
NURSERY SCHOOL



CYPRESS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Executive Headteachers:

Mr M J Roberts & Ms L D Sampson

Head of Upper School: Ms G Buchan

Head of Lower School: Mrs J Sorensen

Information about reading and reading resources at Cypress Lower Site

Dear Parents/ Carers of children in Y2,

Welcome back!



We work hard to instill the mantra '**Read every day**' and need your support at home to help all children achieve this. Our aim is to support children in both the skills for reading and the love of reading from the earliest opportunity. This letter aims to set out the ways in which we do this and the resources that we will be using and sending home.

Teacher Choice Phonics books

In Y2 we have books from the 'Hero Academy' and 'Project X' series, published by Oxford University Press, as they closely match the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics programme that we teach at Cypress.



Our decodable books are selected by teachers to carefully match to each child's phonic stage. Each book is clearly labelled 'TEACHER CHOICE PHONICS BOOK'. The Teacher Choice book will come home on your child's allocated reading day. The title of the book will be recorded in your child's reading diary with a brief reading target. The book should be practiced 3 or 4 times over the week and returned on the next allocated reading day. Children should apply their phonics (sounding out and blending words) and their tricky word knowledge. You will also find useful tips on the inside covers to help support your child when reading at home. These books also link to our colour book band structure which we use throughout Cypress Primary. As children progress through the higher book bands and their reading skills become more automatic they will no longer have a Teacher Choice book.



Accelerated Reading Books

These books should be taken home in addition to the Teacher Choice book. Children are actively encouraged to take a book *every day* from their current colour band unless they are reading longer chapter books. Accelerated Readers include some decodable books and some partially decodable books that may also use repetition and additional reading cues such as tricky words and pictures that heavily support the meaning of the book. Your child may need a lot more support with these books, however they will provide a wider diet of stories and information and are very useful for discussing a story and developing vital comprehension skills. These books have been reorganised for each class so that they are easily accessible to children every morning. Make sure you record the books you have read in your child's reading diary so their reading can be celebrated in our school wide Accelerated Reading award assemblies.



CYPRESS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Bug Club (online reading programme)

These online books can be accessed via your child's unique log-in. You can find this stuck in the back of the reading diary. Please go to www.activelearn.co.uk. The books are set by the teacher and link again to the colour book bands and 'Letters and Sounds' programme. These books should also be recorded in your child's reading diary and can also count towards our school wide Accelerated Reading awards and special Bug Club reading awards. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any queries regarding Bug Club.



Book Corner books

Each Y2 classroom has a well-stocked Book Corner with a selection of quality books. These are accessed by the children throughout the school day and are also available to be taken home as an additional book to share with an adult. Hearing quality stories is an essential part of children's reading diet so please take and return these books as desired.

Library books

A separate letter has been sent home regarding arrangements for Y2 children to use Saplings Library.



Book Swap Hut

You may have noticed our Book Swap Huts on both sites at Cypress. This gives children the chance to recycle and reuse their books from home. Quite simply – Bring a book, take a book! The Book Swap Hut is outside Little Cypress and is usually open before and after school every day. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, these are out of bounds for the time being. We will let you know when they will be operating again.

Please be reassured that all returned reading resources are being quarantined for a minimum of 48 hours before going back on shelves or book boxes.

Please note that any missing or damaged books will need to be paid for. A letter will be issued by the class teacher with a slip to be returned with payment to the school office. A new book will not be issued until payment has been made.

All reading counts towards our Accelerated Reading awards, so please record everything your child reads in their reading diary!

30 books read = bronze certificate
60 books read = silver certificate
100 books read = gold certificate in assembly + prize!

Kind regards,

Mrs Parker
English Subject Lead

Ms Chapman
Deputy Head of School