

Reading and Writing in Year 1



The children have all made a good start to reading and writing using the Read, Write, Inc scheme. They may have told you about Fred Talk, the pictures that help them to remember the sounds and the phrases to help with letter formation.

At the end of each lesson, the children are given a practice sheet to complete at home. You will find these in the folders in their book bags.

Children learning the Set 1 single letter sounds have a sheet where they can trace over the letter, write the sound (saying the given phrase, eg. curl around the caterpillar) and then write the sound (saying the sound, eg. c-c-c-c) There is space for them to write the sound several times.

When they progress to learning the Set 2 sounds, they will be given a sheet of words to read. They use 'Fred Talk' to say each sound and then say the whole word. Where two or three letters make one sound, such as the sound ay, we call these letters 'special friends'. The children can also copy the words to practise spelling them.

You can help them by encouraging them to say the phrases and sounds, and by supporting them to use the correct pencil grip and letter formation. Try to use very short sounds: c rather than cuh.

This should only take about 10 minutes but will really help to reinforce the learning that your child has done in school.



Each week we learn a new rhyme or poem. These help the children to hear patterns in words, learn new vocabulary and develop memory skills. You will find the rhymes in the green books in their reading bags and it would be lovely if you could practise saying them together at home.



Each Friday the children are given the opportunity to choose a book from our Reading Corner and take it home for you to enjoy together. They can choose a book that they can read by themselves or one that you can read to them.

Please talk about the book together as this will help to develop their vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Library books are 'quarantined' for a week before they are put back into the Reading Corner.



Every day in school we have a story time. The books we read have been chosen for their appeal to children, variety of genres (traditional tales, humorous stories, rhyming stories, fantasy stories, stories set in real life, etc) and books that reflect diverse communities. We focus on five different stories each half-term so that the children get to know them very well.

Our Favourite Five this half-term are Elmer, Where The Wild Things Are, Chocolate Cake, Funnybones and Duck in the Truck. The children love hearing these stories. We will put the titles of our Favourite Five on the Year 1 class page of the school website each half-term.

As you can see, it is important that your child brings all of these things to school in their book bag every day so we can give them new practice sheets, change library books and add new rhymes.

If you have any questions about reading or writing in Year 1, please let us know and we will do our best to help.

Thank you for your support. It will make a real difference to the progress your child makes in reading and writing.

The Year 1 Team