Dear Parent/Carers

Today your child will be bringing home a new home-school diary. Within it is some general information about things that happen within the academy along with a section about reading, phonics and maths.

There is also a section where any spellings the children are looking at within class can be recorded, a section for any additional homework that is set to be recorded as well as weekly reading record pages for teachers and parents to use.

Reading is a skill we continue to develop throughout our lives, but starting this process as early as possible has significant benefits for our continued success as readers. This is why, as parents and carers, you play a vital role in supporting your child in becoming a fluent reader who is confidently able to apply their reading skills across all areas of their lives.

The teaching of reading and reading comprehension within the classroom is only part of a child's learning, and the value that is given to reading at home is equally important.

You can help your child to achieve their full potential by listening to them read daily, reading regular bedtime stories and by encouraging them to enjoy reading and sharing books together. Reading widely through all of these approaches will help develop your child’s vocabulary, which in turn will make them more confident when reading more challenging books.

To help us track how much reading your child is are doing at home, it is important that you sign their home-school diary every time you have listened to them read, along with a brief comment. (At the upper end of Key Stage 2 when children are more likely to be reading with confidence and fluency, they should be keeping their own daily records, which should be signed by parents/carers at least once a week.)

Regular reading will be rewarded in school through reading tokens which can earn them a vending machine token to be used in our magical book vending machine, along with and our Reading Olympics.

Please make sure your child brings their home-school diary to school every day in their book bag.

Many thanks

Dawn McAughey

Headteacher