



Dear parents and carers,

### **EYFS and KS1 Reading and Phonics**

#### **Phonics**

We have recently purchased a new phonics scheme called 'Little Wandle', which we are now using across our EYFS and KS1 classes. Little Wandle is a systematic synthetic phonics programme which focuses on the skill of segmenting and blending words in order to read and write them fluently and confidently. Children will learn how to say and identify phonemes (sounds) and how to blend these together in order to say and read words.

#### **Reading in Reception and KS1**

In order to further develop our early reading skills, we are introducing group reading sessions in Reception, Year 1 and for any child in Year 2 who did not meet the National Standard in the phonics screening check in the Autumn term. Children will read in their group three times a week focussing on three main reading skills; firstly, their decoding; how they identify and segment sounds in words to read. Secondly prosody; the way we use our expression and intonation when reading. Finally, the comprehension skills; answering and discussing the texts to ensure a good understanding has been achieved. The children will focus on the same text throughout the week and will then be allocated this book on their EBook account on a Friday so they can read it at home too.

Your child's EBook login information and guidance sheet has been sent home with your child. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any difficulties with this.

At Christ the King we strongly believe that a child should only be reading texts which they can read fluently and accurately as this is when the true love of reading will blossom! Therefore, alongside their Ebooks, each week children will be allocated one phonic matched book to take home, this will have been carefully matched to each child's phonic ability and teachers will have checked this for fluent and accurate reading. Children will continue to select reading for pleasure books to bring home too!

*Christ Be Our Light and Our Guide*

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### **Reading expectations at home**

Children should have the opportunity to read a wide range of texts and materials for different purposes. Children should be reading at least three times a week at home and this should include their phonic matched book, their e-book and books that they have chosen to read for pleasure.

In your child's reading record, their year group expectations are displayed. Please use these as a guide when reading at home to focus on different reading and comprehension skills. Reading the same book more than once is a really powerful teaching tool to deeper understanding and discussions.

### **Year 2 Reading**

Year 2 children completed their statutory Phonic Screening Check in the Autumn term and we are so proud of how well they did! Year 2 children will continue to have their reading books changed twice a week and these will be checked by teachers for fluency and accuracy. Please use the objectives in your child's reading record to focus on different skills when reading at home. The expectation is that children read at least 3 times a week with an adult. This should be their school allocated book and other texts of their choice.

### **Year 2 Spellings**

In Year 2, we are now learning different spelling rules and applying these into a context within our writing. Each fortnight we will add our spelling rule and some example words onto our Google Classroom so you can practise these at home. Children could be challenged to write these words in a sentence. Please be aware there **will not** be a spelling test!

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to myself or your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Lickess  
Head of School

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