



# Christopher Reeves Primary School

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child has now been given a reading book and Reading Record in their book bag. All of the children will start off with a picture book. Your child is developing their reading skills and they need to learn how to do more than read the words. Between us we can teach them how to handle a book correctly, turn the pages independently, look at the front cover and title and tell a story using the pictures for clues. We are teaching the children early comprehension skills and it is important that your child can talk about what they have read and answer some simple questions. I have attached a sheet with some ideas of the types of questions you could ask when reading a fiction or non-fiction book with your child.

When your child is ready they will be reading books that contain words that they can decode, sounding out the words using their sounds and blending them together. It is important that your child can also read the sentence back once they have decoded the words.

Please support your children at home with their reading book and record it in their Reading Record. The date, title of the book, who they read to and a simple comment about how they read is sufficient. We refer to the Reading Record regularly. We find that little and often is best and that practise makes perfect. Reading the book once is often not enough for a child to be secure with either the words or content. Ultimately, we want your child to be reading the sentences without decoding each word every time.

Your child will generally read with myself or Mrs Cranage once a week. When we feel they are ready for a new book, we will change it. Simply reading the words in a book doesn't necessarily mean they are ready for a new book as they will need to be able to talk about what they have read and answer simple questions. Every Monday and Friday we will check their books to see if they need changing before and after the weekend.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you very much for your on-going support.

Miss Fairey and Mrs Cranage