**Reading**

Keeping up with reading is really important.

Listening to your child read a suitable level book to you so that they can practise both using their phonics to sound out words and also build up their recognition of tricky words (those which can’t be decoded by sounding out). Reading aloud also helps develop fluency and expression. Equally, sharing stories with your child and reading to them is important too and asking them questions to check their comprehension of the story.

Year R – 10 mins – sharing a book with an adult

Year 1/2 – 10 mins – reading with an adult; 10 mins being read to by an adult

Year 3/4 - 15 mins – reading with an adult; 15 mins being read to by an adult

Year 5/6 - 20 mins – reading a book of your choice; discuss what you have read with an adult afterwards

Choose a longer book to share with your child over several days. Enjoy talking about the book. Below are some questions which will help.

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| **Questions while selecting a book:**  • Why did you want to read this book? • Do you like the book cover? What do you like about it? • Have you read any other books by this author? • Is the author also the illustrator of this book? • What do you think this book might be about? |

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| **Questions prior to reading the book:**  • What is the title of this book? • Who are the author and illustrator? • Does the picture on the cover give us any clues as to what the story might be about? • (Read the blurb on the back of the book together.) What clues does this give us? Does it sound like an exciting/sad/happy story? |

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| **Questions while reading the book:**  • What has happened so far? What do you think might happen next? • What can you see in the pictures? Are they helping to tell the story? • Which character is your favourite? How would you describe them? • How would you feel if that happened to you? |

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| **Plot questions after reading the book:**  • What happened in the beginning? • What happened next? • What happened at the end of the story? • At what point in the story did we realise….? |

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| **Character questions:**  • What do we learn about X in the beginning of the story? • What do we know about X by the end of the story? • Who are the main characters in the story? Would you like to be any of the characters? If so, why? • How would you feel if you were X at that part of the story? • What would you have done if you were X? • What are some of the words the author has used to describe the character? • How did X feel when… ? • Does X remind you of anyone you know? If so, why? |

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| **Appreciation questions:**  • Did you enjoy this story? • Did the illustrations help you to enjoy and understand the story? • Did it remind you of any other stories we’ve read together? What were the similarities? • What did you like/dislike the most? • Did any parts of the story make you laugh? Why? • Which was your favourite bit? Why? • Were there any words or sentences in the book that you particularly enjoyed? • Were any of the words written in capital letters/bold/italics? If so, why? • Would you like to read another book by this author? • Did the story remind you of anything that has happened to you? |