

Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to share with you that we are now following The Little Wandle Revised Letters and Sounds Phonic Program. The staff using the program have enjoyed their training and the resources and new books have all arrived in school. This week we have been familiarising the children with the new phonics and reading practice sessions structure and have enjoyed exploring the new resources. The children have been very curious and keen to start reading the new books.

We have uploaded a PowerPoint presentation to introduce the program (you do need to enable macros if you want sound) as well as videos to show you how we will be teaching different parts of the lesson and to show you correct pronunciation of the sounds. As soon as we are able to we would love to invite to school for some parent workshops.

In line with the new government guidance children's reading books should be fully decodable with the children being able to read 95% of words. The school has heavily invested in the new Big Cat Collins reading scheme which is linked to the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds revised program. Each child will now read 3 times a week in focused small groups in reading practice sessions which will last between 10 and 20 minutes. The children will be reading a book which is closely matched to their phonic stage. The reading practice sessions will each have a different focus but with the same goal, to develop fluency. Although your child will be taught to read at school, you have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home. A reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with



little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. A sharing book. In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

In summary your child will be bringing home a reading practice book once a week on a Friday and this must be returned on the following Monday and a sharing book which can be changed as frequently as you like.

Thank you for your support and we hope that you are as curious and as enthusiastic as your amazing children.

Many thanks Mrs Oliver