

Monday 2nd October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

New Phonics Reading Scheme

At The Beacon, we recognise that the ability to read can play a crucial role in helping our young people become as independent as they can be. With this in mind, we have had a focus on reading over the last academic year and have joined a new phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds revised. Focusing on phonics will not be suitable for all our young people. At some point they may either progress onto another scheme or require further intervention. You are receiving this letter because we feel that your young person will benefit from concentrating on phonics.

Through this programme you can access reading books at home via an app or on most devices you may like to use. Your young person's teacher will assign them a reading book and will be able to see when they have read it by looking on the app.

Supporting your child with reading

Reading practice book

The book will have been carefully matched to your young person's current reading level. If they are reading it with a little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your young person needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Reading for pleasure

In order to encourage your young person to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. They will be given or directed to use a reading for pleasure book. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this book alone, you can 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.

You have been given login details that have been included with this letter. If you have any further questions about this, our phonics programme or any aspect of reading please do not hesitate to contact me on casey.fletcher@thebeacon.kent.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Fletcher
Assistant Head Teacher – Zone 1