



## St. Mary's Church of England VC Infant School

St Mary's Way, Baldock, Herts, SG7 6HY

Telephone: 01462 892347

E-mail: [admin@stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk)

[www.stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stmarysinfants.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Miss Verity Edey

Deputy Head: Mrs Kathryn Thorp

25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents

Today all the children in reception have been sent home with a lilac reading book (wordless) and a reading diary. On the inside of the reading diary you will find an explanation of print concepts and the reading strategies we use in school to teach the children how to become proficient readers.

Please look through the lilac book with your child encouraging lots of discussion about each page, what they can see, what might happen and why they think that. Encourage them to make up their own stories using the pictures. The lilac reading books will be changed every Friday. It is important that you read a story book to or with your child daily and that you highlight and discuss the different print concepts when doing so e.g. Where is the front cover? Where do I start to read? etc. When we read to the children at school, we point to the words we are reading to show the direction the text needs to be read and where we are reading from.

The diary is to be used daily to share what you have been reading at home, the different print concepts you have discussed and your child's understanding of them. As the children start to read books with words you will need to note the different reading strategies that they use. We will communicate which reading strategy we are focusing on at school so that you can continue to support this learning at home.

The children will be given a reading book with words as they:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the print concepts
- Begin to recognise and say the sounds that letters make
- Begin to segment e.g. c-a-t and blend e.g. cat words
- Begin to read by sight some of the common exception words, sometimes called tricky words e.g. be, to, me.

Please ensure you child bring their reading book and reading record to school daily.

Reading should be an enjoyable experience for you and your child to share. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Mrs Thomas and Miss Farrant

*'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'*