



Monday 22nd May

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Home Reading Expectations

At Thomas Fairchild, reading is at the heart of everything we do. Reading is the most important skill children will learn at school and their reading ability is vital to success in all their other subjects. We are proud of our reading curriculum in school, but we would never underestimate the importance of the home-school partnership when it comes to reading. All research shows that the more children read at home, the more successful they are at both primary and secondary school.

As a handy reminder, below I have listed the types of books children should be regularly borrowing from school. It is essential for all children to bring their **book bag** to school every day. If children do not bring a book bag, we are not able to lend them books to read at home.

For children in Reception to Year 3 who are on the **Read Write Inc Phonics** programme, in their book bags each week there should be:

- Their **RWI Storybook**: This story is familiar to your child which allows them to practise reading it to an adult at home, using fluency and expression.
- A **Book Bag Book**: This is a matched storybook which includes many of the same reading activities with additional guidance for parents.
- AND **picture books**: These are higher level books to share with an adult. Children will not be able to decode all the words themselves, but should listen to an adult reading and discuss the pictures and events on each page.



Children in Years 3-6 who are on the **SFA** reading programme do not take home phonics books. Instead, they should regularly take home a free-choice book from their class reading area, or from the school library. These might be fiction, non-fiction or picture books. They can also borrow a graphic novel or comic from our popular 'comic book club'. If children are reading a book from home, they are also welcome to bring this into school for class reading time.

We expect all children to read at home every day. In years 1 and 2, children should read their phonics books for at least **15** minutes at home daily. In years 3 and 4, we expect children to read for **20** minutes each day. Children in years 5 and 6 should read for **25** minutes each day. This daily practice will ensure all children are set up for success.

If you have any questions at all about reading in school, or how to support children at home, please speak to me or to Sophie Adams, our English lead.

Kind regards,

Matt Trahair
 Headteacher