



6 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Corsham Primary, we believe that reading (alongside speaking, listening and writing) is a fundamental life skill, which enables children to communicate effectively in all areas and equips them for the challenges they will face in the wider world.

Our aim is for all children in Key Stage 1 to leave as confident readers through our rigorous approach but we also aim to develop children as life-long readers.

In Year 2, we will continue to teach reading decoding and spelling through a Systematic Synthetic Phonics Programme (SSPP) called 'Read Write Inc.' or 'RWI'. This will be used alongside additional strategies to develop children's comprehension skills.

RWI is an approach to learning centred around letter sounds and **phonics**; blending sounds together to read and write words, and using these learnt sounds to support with **reading, spelling and writing**.

Phonics Screening Check

Through the RWI program, all children in Key Stage One are assessed half-termly, to ensure they are reading books at an appropriate level. The children's ongoing progress is carefully monitored to support staff in quickly identifying children who need additional reading and phonics support, helping to ensure the vast majority of children leave Key Stage One knowing all of their sounds.

Phonically-decodable RWI books

Fred Talk helps children read unfamiliar words by pronouncing each sound in the word one at a time. They do lots of practice of this in their daily RWI Phonics and Spelling Lessons.

While the children are still consolidating their phonics and learning to apply all sounds from Set 1 to Set 3, children will continue to be given phonically-decodable RWI books to share with you at home. These books are closely matched to their known sounds. This enables them to read all the words and show an understanding of what they're reading. In order to accelerate this progress, we now ask that all children reading RWI texts, read each book three times. This allows the children to read each book with confidence and take on the role of a storyteller, by being able to read with increasing fluency, intonation and expression. Once children are secure in all their sounds, they will move onto a wider range of texts at their reading level.

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Reading at Home Expectations:

In Year 2, the expectation for reading at home is between 10 and 20 minutes per evening (reading to an adult). Children reading pink, red, yellow, blue, green and orange book band need to read their book at home 3 times:

1st read: focus on **decoding** (sounding out)

2nd read: read with **fluency** (speed and accuracy)

3rd read: show **comprehension** (read with expression and an understanding of what is being read)

In addition to their RWI books, children will be encouraged to read a wider selection of texts. We want all our children to have a love of reading so we encourage our families to enjoy reading anything and everything at home: favourite books, e-books, library books, recipes, road signs, subtitles on children's films or TV programs, cereal boxes, logos, menus etc.

Your participation with fluency development is greatly appreciated. Happy reading!

For more information about RWI, please use the following link:

[Parent guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics | Oxford Owl](https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/)

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Yours faithfully

Rebecca Palmer

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