

Dear parents and carers,

Our new scheme is called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds -revised, a scheme which has been validated by the Department for Education with the aim of teaching phonics and early reading skills. All our staff have received training on the implementation of the scheme.

Now that we have more resources, you will notice some changes in the books which your child brings home each week. One book will be sent via the e-book subscription which will be the book which your child has been learning from in school during the week. **This book is key to reading practice as it is the one linked to our new scheme for teaching phonics and reading.** Your child will also come home with a book from the 'Floppy's Phonics' range. This book will contain all of the sounds which your child has been taught during the autumn term. These books are called 'reading practice books'.

The following passages are taken directly from Little Wandle to help parents and carers understand the purpose and intention of how the reading practice books are to be used to support your child at home.

### **Reading practice books**

*Parents' or carers' support is needed to help their child practise reading and develop fluency with a book they have already read at school. This book needs to be matched to their phonic stage and be fully decodable. To ensure that reading at home is an enjoyable experience and does not feel like a chore, schools need to send home reading practice books in which the child can read 95% of the words.*

*The children should be able to read the practice book with developing confidence and fluency without any significant help. The parent/carer's role is to listen with interest and, most importantly, to encourage and praise, enthusiastically acknowledging the child's achievement (even if, at the early stages, this is only small).*

Your child will also continue to bring home a library book of their choice which is called a 'sharing book'. The following passage is from Little Wandle documentation explaining the role of this book in developing a child's love of reading which is so important.

### **Sharing Books**

*If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. The desire of wanting to read will help with the skill of reading. To help foster a love of reading, children should take a book home that they can share and enjoy with their parent/carer. Involving the children in the choice of this book is important. These books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story. It is important to offer a variety of books, including non-fiction, so they can enjoy a range of writing. Parents/carers need to understand that they should not expect their child to read this book independently and certainly should not try to get their child to do so. The book is for the parent/carer to read to or with the child. The goal is enjoyment.*