



6<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## K-2 HOME READING PROGRAM

Dear Parents/Carers

The Home Reading Program has commenced for K-2 students and all classes will be ready to send books home from Week 3. Each student will receive their Home Reading text in a plastic folder along with a recording booklet and a set of information provided by the NSW Department of Education to assist parents as they support their child's reading at home.

Class teachers will notify parents via Class Dojo to identify the days Home Readers can be changed although most teachers will allow students to borrow when they return their texts. We have included many new texts in our resources this year and it is for this reason we are asking that students return their Home Reading folders and texts **promptly** each time they are taken home.

Teachers will also be sending reminder notes home with students who are not returning folders regularly. Our Class Dojo system will include a Red Dojo warning as a reminder to students to return books.

Reading texts included in Home Reading folders will be set at each students' **Independent Reading level** which is 1-2 levels lower than the **Guided Reading level** teachers are using in class.

We hope that you are able to support your child by reading with them each time they bring their folder home and recording the title of each text in their Home Reading booklet.

If you are unable to locate a Home Reading text that may have been misplaced, please contact your child's teacher so that arrangements can be made for your child to continue to participate in the program.

Thanking you

Mrs G Bacon  
Instructional Leader K-2

Mr T Miladinovic  
Principal

# READING WITH YOUR CHILD AT HOME



Education  
Public Schools

## IDEAS FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

### Reading is important

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- Reading has always been an important skill. In our modern world it is more important than ever.
- Children learn about the importance of reading as they watch family members use reading and writing for everyday purposes.
- Reading with your child at home will help your child in all learning areas of school.
- Children see you reading and writing in everyday life – reading for pleasure, sharing a story with your child, using a recipe, making a shopping list, writing a birthday card or reading street signs. This teaches them that reading and writing are useful skills in today's world.
- Often parents are asked by the school to listen to their child read at home. It's a good way of supporting your child's reading. Books may be borrowed from your school library or your local library.
- *Read aloud to your child. It's important.*

### What you can do to help

- Read to your child every day.
- Read with your child every day.

- It is important to read to your child in your home language if your first language is not English. Experience shows that using your home language will help your child to learn to read in English.
- Try not to let television intrude on reading time. Make a special time for reading with your child, away from interruption.
- Listen to your child every day, even for a short time.
- Give books as treats and presents.

## Hints for listening to your child read

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- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title, the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.
- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point, and imagine what will happen next time.
- After reading is finished, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.
- When reading a harder book together, take turns. Beginning readers can read the repetitive parts and more experienced readers can read a paragraph or a page.
- On finding an unknown word:

Pause to give your child time to work out the word

### Prompt

– go back to the beginning of the sentence or read from the difficult word to the end of the sentence

– look at the picture and think of the word

– look at the first letter and think of a word that starts with that letter

– think of a word that rhymes

– think of a word that is similar

– think of a word that is spelled like

## What to read and do

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- Tell and re-tell stories of all kinds including favourite stories, fairy tales, movie plots, local news items and family history.
- Play games such as "I spy... something beginning with d".
- Ask your child to read out simple recipes while you cook together.
- Read comics, magazines, short stories, poems and rhymes, including nursery rhymes.
- Do crosswords & other word puzzles together.
- Read the TV guide before watching a program.
- Look at letterbox leaflets together.
- Read directions and signs when driving and shopping.
- Read and write notes and letters to family members.
- Play board games together and read the rules.
- Provide plastic letters, crayons, pencils, pens and writing paper.

## And do remember..

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- Discuss the meaning of stories and words.
- Encourage your child to read anywhere and at any time
- Let your child see you enjoy reading
- Take your child to the library or to a local book shop or museum or to a local club
- Let your child help you to write letters, cards, notes, postcards, thank you notes etc.
- Read together every day

Contact your child's school and get more information on how to help your child read