



# OIA news

Issue 3  
09.10.2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

Thank you again for your continued support in these challenging times. We are very busy behind the scenes, ever adapting and making sure the children are receiving the best education we can offer. This does mean that there will continue to be changes, not only due to COVID but also as we start to introduce new innovative ideas to move the school forward.

We have been reflecting on our teaching of reading and wanted to communicate some changes with you. As you will be aware, we have to be very careful with things coming in from home and the things we are sending home. We have to quarantine books for 72 hours before sending them home to another family. Initially we made the decision that we would also therefore not be writing in reading diaries.

On reflection, we have now decided that we will write a brief note in them when your child reads at school. This note may just be to inform you that your child has read at school. If the teacher feels there is something specific they wish for you to support with at home, then an additional note will be added. All children will be given personal next steps at parents evening next week too so you will have things to practise at home.

The teaching of reading takes place in many forms throughout every day at school - in English lessons, topic lessons, phonics and SPaG lessons, through guided reading, paired reading, independent reading, etc. Our aim is for children to be immersed in literature and to develop a love of books. Our biggest ask from you as parents and carers is to do the same; immerse them in books, share stories, read together. The sharing of their school reading book is only one small piece of a very large jigsaw. A love of reading is the key.

[Here](#) is a lovely article with some ideas for supporting the love of reading at home. There are also some more top tips at the end of this letter for when you are sharing their school book.

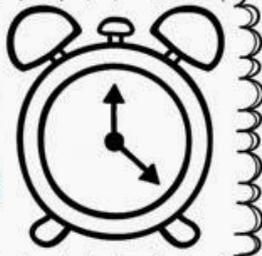
To ensure that you have an insight into what is going on each week at school, starting next Friday, each year group will be sending home a bulletin which will contain any year group dates and reminders and an overview of the teaching for the following week. We will also give you a little review of the current week's successes, including our awards: *Star of the Week*, *Work of the Week* and from next Friday, *Reader of the Week*.

We hope you find this bulletin useful.

With warm wishes,

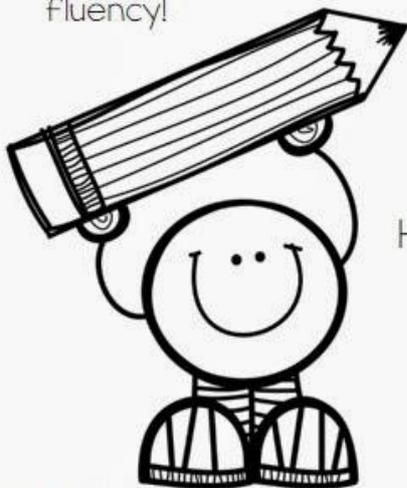
Sarah Armitage

15-20  
minutes is  
plenty for  
a beginning  
reader!



### How To Read With A Beginning Reader:

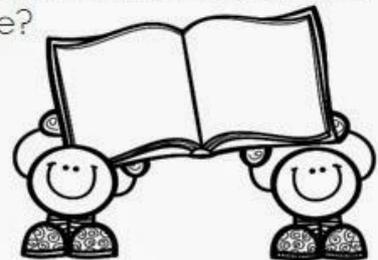
- Encourage your child to use his/her finger to point to each word.
- Read a sentence and have your child repeat it.
- Take turns reading a sentence each or a page each.
- Talk about the story as you read it. What do you think will happen next? What does this story remind you of? How do you think this character feels?
- Don't be afraid to read the same book again! Repeated reading helps build reading fluency!



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### Check For Understanding

- ✓ Start the book by making predictions. What do you think will happen in this story?
- ✓ Ask questions and make comments during the reading process.
- ✓ After reading a book, have your child tell you the events from the story in the correct order.
- ✓ What was the problem in this story?
- ✓ How did the character feel when...?
- ✓ Encourage your child to make connections. Does this story remind you of another book you read, an event in your life, a movie?



### Read Books Online!

There are many fun and interactive websites for literacy.

Here are a few FREE online resources:

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

[www.speakaboos.com](http://www.speakaboos.com)

[www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com)

[www.wegivebooks.org](http://www.wegivebooks.org)

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com>