



*Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and  
Nursery*  
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## **Developing confident readers and a love of reading**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you to explain a change to our approach to reading which will affect the reading books that children bring home with them.

### **Developing phonic skills and reading fluency**

As a school, we follow the *Read Write Inc* programme to develop phonics and early reading skills; each half term the children are assessed on their reading and phonics knowledge and their group or 'level' may change. Up until now, most younger children have been taking home a *RWI* book which relates to their phonics level, along with a coloured (sticker) band book.

From this week, the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to take home a *RWI* book which relates to their phonics group level: these books reinforce the learning from their phonics sessions at school. The books allow the children to practise decoding words and blending sounds, as well as developing their fluency. Once children have finished the *RWI* programme, after progressing well with phonics, they will take home a book banded (coloured sticker) book. These are organised and coloured according to vocabulary and degree of difficulty. This will usually happen in Year 2 or 3.

### **Developing a love of reading**

As an addition to the *RWI* book or a coloured (sticker) band book, we are now inviting children to take home a book from their wonderful classroom selection; this is intended to be a '*reading for pleasure*' book. In this book, the children may know some of the words but, for younger readers, it isn't intended to be used to teach them phonics. Instead, this should be seen as an opportunity for adults to share a lovely book with their children and so help to develop a love of reading.

We will be in touch with you again to explain more about this revised approach to books and reading; this will include workshops or meetings in school. Please ask teachers if you have any questions in the meantime.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lodge (Key Stage 1 Phonics & English Lead)  
Mr Beazeley (Headteacher)

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