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Monday 10th January 2022

Dear Reception and KS1 Families,

We wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the teaching of early reading at Saxon Primary School. Early reading simply means the stage of reading where children are learning to become fluent readers through the use of phonics.

As a school, we have chosen to use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme. We will be using these resources to teach phonics and reading from Reception to Year 2. It will mean some changes in the books that children are bringing home to read and share with you. Each child will be given an online reading practice book, a sharing book pack and a library book of their choice.

The reading practice online book:

This will be the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read these fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level and they will have read it before in school.

If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it is too easy – your children need to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise. If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished talk about the book together.

Each child will be given a login with username and password to access their reading practice book.

The sharing book pack and Library book:

If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. To help foster a love of reading, the children will continue to bring home a book pack and a library book that they can share and read with their parent/carers. These books offer a wealth of opportunities to talk about the stories, discuss the pictures and give children a variety of texts to enjoy.

The sharing book packs will be handed out following the normal timetable and the same library bus days will continue for each class.

In your child's reading record, please continue to record daily reading of any of the school books with your child (or a book from home or the public library).



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At some point towards the end of Year 1 or during Year 2, many children will move away from phonics-based reading books, when this happens will vary for each child. Once a child is ready to move onto books which are not fully decodable, they will simply bring home the sharing book pack and library books.

If you would like to know more about how we teach early reading, there are lots of videos and information sheets available on the Little Wandle website:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Please speak to your class teacher if you have any questions,

Kind regards

Mrs Vale