



Heathlands Primary School and Foundation Unit

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Dear parents/carers,

Reading in Foundation Stage 2

At Heathlands Primary, we believe reading is one of the most important skills your child can learn and we are very excited that your child has started this journey with us. Your child will soon bring home a **Lilac** Band school reading book. These books have no words, however, they are an important introduction to reading and are specifically designed to tell a simple story through pictures alone. Stories told through pictures help children to develop speaking and listening skills, through creating and telling stories. Our reading target is for the children to share their wordless book with an adult at home. This does not have to be the full book, it can just be a few pages each time.

Here are some suggestions of questions you could ask when you are sharing a wordless book:

- 📖 Before reading the book: *Can you find the front cover? Can you point to the title? What can you see on the front cover? What do you think the story might be about?*
You can show your child to hold the book correctly.
- 📖 Whilst reading the book: *What is happening on this page? What do you think might happen next? Can you turn to the next page? What do you think might happen at the end of the story?*
Encourage your child to talk about the left-hand page before the right-hand page.
- 📖 After reading the book: *Who was the book about? What happened in the story? Did you like this book - Why? What was your favourite part?*

Within school, your child will begin learning about letters and words in their Phonics lessons and, as they build their phonic knowledge, we will then introduce the next band of school reading books containing simple words for them to apply their new skills.

Your child will also bring home a **'Reading for Pleasure'** book each week. These are regular storybooks, with pictures and words, that we would love you to read to your child to encourage a love of reading that will stay with them throughout their lives.

Once you have read the school reading book and the Reading for Pleasure book at home, you can tick your child's Home Learning Diary for each book, resulting in two ticks per day. These ticks are then counted within our Reading Challenge and can earn prizes for your child.

We would like to thank you for your support with reading. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have about sharing these books with your child, or how to support your child's early reading skills.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Shuttleworth
F2 Class Teacher



Respect



Kindness



Pride



Courage



Responsibility



Aspiration