



Heathlands Primary School and Foundation Unit

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Dear Parent/Carer,

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 bring home a **Lilac Band** school reading book. These books contain 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 develop their speaking and listening skills by encouraging them to create and tell stories. Our reading target is for children to share their wordless book with an adult at home. This does not have to be the entire book; it can be just a few pages at a 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 sounds in their phonics lessons. As they build their phonic knowledge, we will introduce the next band of school reading books, which contain simple words for them to apply their new skills.

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

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 supporting your child's early reading development.

Yours faithfully

Miss Charlotte Baker

Foundation Stage Leader

F2 Class Teacher



Respect



Kindness



Pride



Courage



Responsibility



Aspiration