

Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School

Providing the best start in life for all children



Early Years and Key Stage 1



Reading at Home

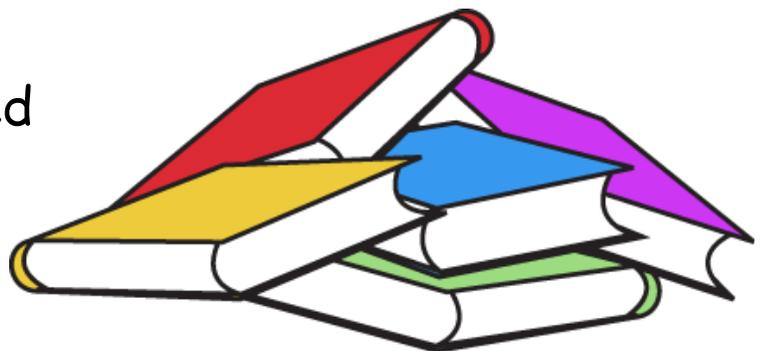
Dear Parents/ Carers

This booklet has been produced to provide you with ideas to help support your child at home. Each week the class teacher will send a book home for your child to read and enjoy at home. We would ask you to continue to encourage your child to read a range of texts at home. These could be from the library or personal collection including comics and magazines. The reading books at Ashcroft are in 'book bands' and the children will move through these coloured bands when their teacher feels they are ready. They do not need to have read all of the books in each band to progress onto the next.

Once the children have completed the bands they will be 'free readers' and choose from a range of short novels and non-fiction texts.

We would ask you to write a comment in their reading record book each week about the reading they have done at home.

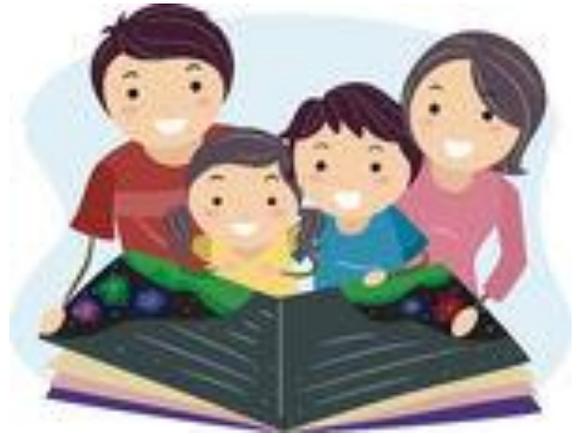
Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs S Sivieri

How you can help at home.

These activities are designed to be completed over a number of days. It is important that children don't spend too long on their homework activities. A good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.



Be Positive. Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes. Turn off the TV and reduce other distractions so that it is easier for your child to concentrate.

Give them time. Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Help them to get the first sound or try breaking the word up into smaller sections.

Point with a finger. Encourage them to follow the words with their finger.

Read to them. Your child will benefit enormously by following the text and hearing you read. To begin with you may read to them more until they become more confident.

Don't make them try too hard! It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the word sometimes.

Let them read their favourites. It is good practice to read the same books over and over again. This will boost their confidence and allow them to 'show off' to other family members.

Read all around you. Read as you walk down the street and around the shops, pointing out signs and words and talking about them.

Ask lots of questions...

Check they understand the story by asking them questions about what happens.

Ask them to predict what the story might be about by looking at the front cover and the blurb.

Predict what might happen next or at the end of a story. Can they think of an alternative ending?

Retell the story in the correct sequence.

Discuss the characters in the story. Which did they like/ dislike?

What their favourite/ least favourite part in the story?

Talk about the features of non-fiction texts such as glossary, contents page, index etc

Discuss different types of text and why it might be written in **bold** or *italics*.

Discuss the use of punctuation and how this makes the reader say words differently, for example, with a question mark or an exclamation mark. Can they use different voices when different characters are speaking?

Can they act out their favourite part of the story? Can they guess which part you are acting out?

Use dictionaries together for difficult words - a picture dictionary can make exploring language more interesting.

