



Part of PACE Academy Trust
New Valley Primary School

Old Lodge Lane, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4AZ

Tel: 020 8660 1325

e-mail: office@newvalleyprimary.com

Head Teacher: Pete Steward

Deputy Head: Sally Dubben

14th January 2020

Dear Parents/ carers,

As you are aware, at New Valley we are determined to ensure that every child is an enthusiastic reader, as this underpins so much of their learning.

Your children are reading all the time in the classroom and around the school: reading is taught in specific lessons (VIPERS) and other English lessons, but children are also practising and using their reading skills constantly in all subjects. Parents can support this 'reading journey' through regular reading at home.

Reading to and with your child every evening for at least ten minutes can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school. A report from the Oxford University Press highlighted the importance of parents reading with their children. 'Children who read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age'.

KS1

Every child has a coloured coded reading book suited to their level of reading. Their level will be monitored regularly checking their fluency as well as comprehension. We expect that children read their book or part of their book at least **3 times a week** with an adult at home. To promote children's independence, they will change their own reading book for a new one once they have completed it. Any reading that is done at home should be logged either with a comment about their fluency (recall of sounds or words) or their comprehension of the text, or a comment on their opinions of the book. Please sign the reading record and make sure it is in school every day.

KS2

Every child will be given a colour-coded reading book suited to their level of reading. Unlike KS1 colour-coded reading books, the colour bands will be broader and so the children will spend longer on each band. It is expected that every child reads **at least 3 times** during the week. Any reading that is done at home should be logged by the child or adult in their reading record, with a signature from the person who has read with them. Teachers will check the reading record books weekly. It will be up to the children to change their own reading book when finished.

Although your child may want to read independently as they become a more confident reader, reading aloud is also an important skill. Please spend time listening to your child read, checking their fluency and recall as well as questioning them about the book. Example questions to discuss can be found on the VIPERS bookmark that went home in the Autumn term. Please see your teacher for more information.



At the end of each half term, each teacher will pick two children who have demonstrated themselves to be particularly enthusiastic readers. The children selected will be announced in assembly where they will be given a prize and certificate.

For more information and help about making the most of reading at home with your child, we are hosting a workshop for parents and carers, taking place on **Thursday 23rd January at 9.00 am** and repeated at **6.30pm**. This will be a very practical session, lasting no longer than 45 minutes, and looking at how you can support your child, what to look and listen for when reading with them. We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Swainson

English Leader



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