

## Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery School, West Road, Watton, Norfolk, IP25 6AU

#### http://watton.corvuseducation.com

Tel: 01953 882669 Email: office@westfield.norfolk.sch.uk

CEO: Mr J Adams Executive Headteacher: Mrs H Kemp

27th September 2022

#### Dear Parents/Carers.

Following an update from the Department for Education around phonics teaching we have moved to a new phonics scheme this year. The scheme we will now be following is called **Essential Letters and Sounds**. This scheme is based on the programme we previously followed, Letters and Sounds (2007). This new phonics programme will support your child in making quick progress to become a fluent and confident reader.

To best support us in teaching your child to read, we ask that you read with your child regularly at home. Spending 10 minutes a day reading with your child will hugely support them in their journey to becoming an independent reader. If your child is in Year 2, they will receive two reading books per week. If your child is in Reception or Year 1, they will receive one reading book per week and will also have access to one eBook. Please see below for instructions on how to access these.

Your child's reading book, or books, will be changed weekly and the eBooks will be set for one week on a Friday. This allows your child to re-read each book, building their confidence and fluency. It is a key part of learning to read that children re-read words and sentences that they can decode (sound out) until they are fluent (read with ease and precision). By reading texts several times children have the greatest opportunity to achieve this fluency.

The reading books sent home are chosen to match your child's current reading ability. They should be able to read most of these books independently. The eBooks are carefully chosen to match learning that has taken place in the classroom during the week. This allows learning to be reinforced at home and children will have further opportunities to practice what they have learnt in school.

## Accessing eBooks

If your child is in Reception or Year 1, attached to this letter you will find a log in to Oxford Owl. Start by visiting <a href="https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk">www.oxfordowl.co.uk</a> and press the Log in button under Oxford Owl for School. You will then need to select Students and enter your child's log in details and the school code. You will then be able to see any eBooks your child has been set.

#### **Boom Reader (formerly Go Read)**

In our school we use an app called Boom Reader (formerly Go Read) as a reading record. You will use an app on a phone or a tablet to tell us about the reading your child has done at home. You will soon be receiving a letter with a QR code and a unique code for your child. You can use this to download and start recording their reading. If you have any problems with the app, you can use Boom Reader via a web browser. Just search for Boom Reader in your browser. When you have read an eBook with your child, please add it in your child's Boom Reader account to tell us about how they got on.

If your child is in Reception or Year 1, and you would like to find out more about how phonics is taught in school and how you can support at home, or any aspect of reading, please come along to our Phonics Curriculum Meeting. Please see the newsletter for the date and time of this meeting.

Kind regards,

Miss JE Raine English Subject Lead













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