



St. Philip's
RC Primary School

Reading at home

2nd October 2026

Dear Families,

At St. Philip's we are passionate about helping every child become a confident and successful reader. Reading is one of the most important skills a child will ever learn and the support children receive at home plays a vital role in their progress.

We are incredibly proud that our reading outcomes are consistently above the national average. This success is not achieved by the school alone- it is the result of a strong partnership between school and home. When parents and carers are committed to supporting their child's education, particularly through regular reading, children make exceptional progress.

Last year, our school decided to reduce the amount of additional homework we set so that families have more time to prioritise reading together each evening. We know that regular reading has the greatest impact on children's learning and development. By making time for reading, you are investing in your child's future success across the curriculum and beyond.

We ask that children read at home every evening wherever possible. Please ensure their planner is signed to indicate they have read. We understand that family life can be busy and that this may not always be achievable. However, we ask that every child reads at least three times each week, with reading every night being the goal.

Reading is a shared responsibility between home and school. While we work hard to develop your child's reading skills in the classroom, regular reading at home has a significant impact on their confidence, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and overall achievement.

Research consistently shows that children who read regularly at home:

- Develop stronger vocabulary and language skills.
- Become more confident and fluent readers.
- Achieve better results across all areas of the curriculum, not just English.
- Improve their imagination, concentration and memory.
- Are more likely to enjoy learning and succeed throughout their education and later in life.

Unfortunately, we have recently noticed a decline in the number of children reading regularly at home. This is reflected in school, where some children are finding reading more challenging than expected for their age. Reading really does make a difference and even 10–15 minutes each evening can have a lasting impact.

To encourage this positive habit, children will now receive Reading House Points for reading at home. We hope this provides extra motivation while helping to establish a lifelong love of reading.

To ensure every child has the best opportunity to succeed, we will be closely monitoring how often children are reading at home. Our aim is to work in partnership with families to establish regular reading routines that become part of everyday life. Where we notice that reading is not taking place regularly, we will contact you to offer support and discuss ways we can work together to help. Our shared goal is to ensure every child develops the confidence, skills and enjoyment of reading needed to reach their full potential.

If your child is finding reading difficult, or if you are unsure how best to support them, please speak to a member of staff. We are always happy to help by offering advice, recommending suitable books or suggesting strategies to make reading enjoyable at home.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can ensure every child develops the reading skills they need to thrive both in school and beyond.

Miss McNamara



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