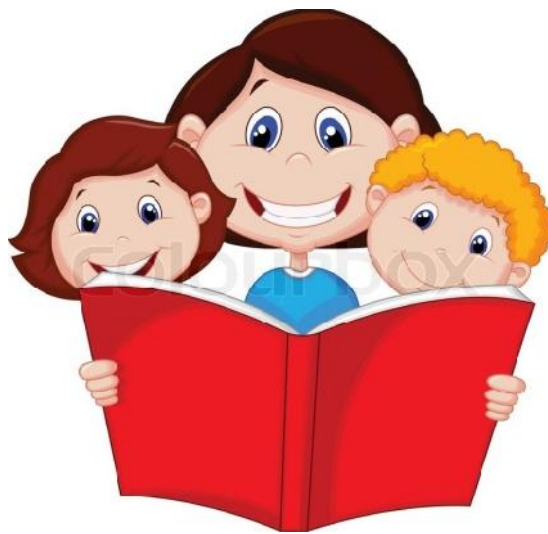


Home Reading at OMS



A Parent Guide

Our aim is for our children to become independent, life-long readers, able to read a wide range of texts for a variety of purposes with understanding and for pleasure. We welcome and encourage support from home in the teaching of reading. We hope that the information in this booklet will be of help in this partnership between home and school.

Reading at school:

Children read in school every day in school in both formal and informal settings. Within a normal school day, children read as a

class in groups, in pairs and individually, both silently and aloud. We have a large range of fiction and non-fiction books in our school library which all pupils are encouraged to regularly borrow books.

Home reading:

Pupils are taught to read in school. They do, however, need to practise their reading as often as possible and this is where a good home reading scheme is invaluable. Sharing books and stories and talking about them with your child will help increase his/her enjoyment of books and improve their reading skills. Try to set aside a quiet time when you can sit together and share the enjoyment of the story and the pictures.

Your child has a **reading record**. Please fill this in each time you hear your child read or encourage them to fill it in themselves every time they read independently.

Activities & techniques to help develop reading:

- Read to your child and listen to them reading to you.
- Point to the text and show reading direction when necessary
- Encourage your child to use the pictures to help guess the words.
- Give your child plenty of time before helping them out.
- If your child is having difficulty with a word, read the whole sentence up to the word to help your child establish the meaning of the text.
- Retell a story in their own words, recalling favourite parts of plot and so on;
- Talk about pictures in their book.
- Predict what may happen next.
- Encourage sensible guesses. Praise, whether they are correct or not.
- Point out patterns in words e.g. sing, king, wing, etc.

- Ask questions about plot, setting, characters and ask them to talk about their likes and dislikes with regard to their independent reading.
- Give reading purpose and meaning. Look for opportunities to read when out and about, e.g. signs, labels, instructions etc.

Some points to note:

- Make reading special by having a quiet place where your child can have your full attention and read undisturbed by siblings or the television.
- Have a regular reading time, e.g. 10 minutes or so after tea or at bedtime.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement.
- Encourage your pupils to join the local library

If reading becomes a challenge...

We would like all of our pupils to enjoy reading rather than see it as an effort/hard work/something they don't enjoy. Try to avoid confrontation. Offer alternative reading material, e.g. internet access, magazines, non-fiction etc...

- Encourage reading at different times of the day or week
- Buy/borrow books on tapes from the local library and then you can listen whilst in the car/before bed
- Share reading activities and interact with the text together

Reading to your Child:

Remember that it is also important for children to be read to. There is almost universal agreement that listening to stories is 'good' for children who are learning to read. You can motivate your child to read by regularly sharing a book with them. Your child will sense your love of books, your enjoyment of a good story and your appreciation of good illustrations. With younger children it can be fun to read familiar stories together, pointing at the words and allowing children to enjoy the stories, join in with

well-known stories and develop ideas of the relationship between sound and print. With children of any age, it will help to develop imagination and enrich vocabulary development.

