

Padnell Infant School

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Reading & Home Learning

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. As we start the new school year, I wanted to reach out to you regarding some important updates and changes we are implementing to enhance our parental engagement and home learning provisions.

Firstly, we have been reviewing our approach to reading and home learning, and we are pleased to see the progress many of our children have made with your support. However, we have noticed a decline in the consistency of reading practise at home, which is a crucial component of a child's literacy development. We cannot stress enough the importance of reading with your child regularly, even for just 10 minutes per day. This dedicated time not only improves their reading skills but also fosters a love of reading that will benefit them throughout their educational journey.

To further encourage and celebrate reading at home, we are excited to launch a new reading incentive programme, which will begin next week for children in Key stage one and a few weeks later for the year R children. This initiative will recognise and reward the efforts of our children and their families in maintaining a consistent reading routine. We believe this will help to reinforce the value we place on reading and the positive impact it has on your child's confidence and attainment.

Each week every child that can show on a Friday through their reading record, that they have read 4 or more times in the week will have a sticker placed on the class reading chart displayed in their classrooms. This could be their home reader; the mini books still sent to you on a Thursday each week or a home book of their choice. At the end of each half term, those that have completed this every week will receive a treat/reward. These incentives will be different every half term and could range from an extra playtime to bubble fun in Joeys field or movie and popcorn to a walk and play with Lani, all depending on the numbers involved and the ideas the children have. We will also be celebrating in our weekly celebration assembly the number of children in each class who have been successful with this challenge.

Additionally, we have been evaluating the effectiveness of our current home learning practises. We have found that the paper-based approach has resulted in a significant amount of waste and a lack of engagement from both children and parents. To address this, we are transitioning to an online provision for our maths and phonics learning. This change will not only reduce the environmental impact but also provide a more interactive and engaging learning experience for your child. We understand that this may require some adjustments, and we are committed to supporting you and your family through this transition. More information regarding this and the logins required will be sent by our English and Maths leaders in the next couple of weeks.

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I cannot emphasise enough the difference your involvement and support can make in your child's educational journey. Your dedication to their learning is invaluable and directly contributes to their confidence and attainment. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the success of your child.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or your child's teacher. We are here to support you and your family every step of the way.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mandy Grayson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mrs Mandy Grayson
Headteacher

Our Padnell promise to be a: **G**iving citizen
Resilient learner
Original thinker
Wise worker