**How to help at home**

# Reading

We have given out children’s yellow reading record and have asked that they choose 1 book from the reading area whilst we complete our initial reading and phonics assessments. We will start issuing scheme books soon and this year, there may be some changes to do with phonics and reading and we will keep you informed of this in due course. When scheme books are issued, please do not worry about which stage book your child is on; we are keen for children to develop a passion for reading, as well as develop key reading skills and want to match books to children’s phonic knowledge, rather than simply move through the stages.

For now, children can change their books from the reading area as and when they finish them, but we will make time at the start of the week for them to formally choose a new book.

The yellow reading records will stay in children’s book bags which are kept inside their individual trays. Please ensure that children bring in their reading record **every day** so that comments can be recorded by teachers throughout the week. At school, we will hear your child read through shared, guided and individual reading sessions and when we have read with your child, we will write a comment in children’s record. We will read with your children regularly and aim to provide 3 formal written comments per half term.

These records can be used for commenting when you have read with your child. The comment will help us get feedback with regards to children’s reading. This can include what they read, what they did well and what they needed support with. It is very important **that you hear your child read and that you read to your child as much as possible-a little bit everyday where possible.** As well as using and applying their phonics skills, children should develop their comprehension skills too so please discuss the book with them, focusing on the meaning of new words and getting them to re-tell the main events. To develop higher order reading skills, talk about the feelings of the characters, and their motivations, and what they can infer from the text.

# Maths

Please make maths real for the children by encouraging them to use money at the shops and help you measure when cooking/baking. Regularly practise the number bonds up to 10, 20 and 100 together. Most importantly show your child how you use maths in your daily life. Please also see the maths strategies booklet on both the Google Classroom and the Year 2 part of the school website.

# Homework

On Google Classroom, one piece of work will be set on Thursday and it should be turned in/uploaded by the following Tuesday. This will either be an English, maths or topic based piece of work and will, at times, be a practical activity. Homework with start on Thursday 23rd September.

**Spellings**

The children will also be given a list of spellings to learn over the week which will be linked to the phonics sounds and spellings patterns we will be learning about in class. We will be setting this as a weekly spelling post on the Google Classroom. We will also be issuing a green exercise book where we will stick in the weekly spellings too. Children should use this book to practice their spellings at least 2-3 times in the week.

Spellings will be set on Monday and the children should practise these as much as possible, there will be a short, informal spellings test in the classroom on the following Monday, the focus of which will help to reinforce phonics and spelling strategies. We do not feedback spelling test results.