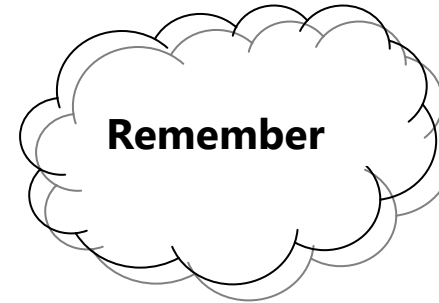


When your child is ready...listening to them read - a few pointers...

- 📖 Try and find a place that's quiet and comfy away from the television.
- 📖 Talk about the book before you read it - children often repeat words you have used. Re-read the book several times over a period of time to get really familiar with the text.
- 📖 Talk about the pictures; re-tell a story to your child from these. Being able to use pictures to make up stories helps to organise thoughts, sequence and predict. These are all really important pre-reading skills.
- 📖 Use stories with repeating phrases to help your child ...join in.
- 📖 If your child really wants to "sound out" a word let them have a try - supply the word if they are struggling. Remember sound out using the shortest sound only e.g. 'mmm' NOT 'muh', 'sss' NOT 'suh'.
- 📖 Ask some questions about what they think will happen next, what they think about a character etc.
- 📖 With non-fiction books your child might not be able to read every word - share the contents, the headings and talk about the illustrations Find out facts together - researching questions on the internet is great.
- 📖 It is fine for your child to point to words or trace their finger below words. As they grow in confidence they will not need to do this.
- 📖 Encourage your child to hold the book the proper way, reading from left to right, always use the 'context' of the pictures - never cover these up.
- 📖 Don't leave listening to reading until your child is tired - that's when they will enjoy you reading a story to them!

Happy Reading!

St Alphege C of E Infant School



Reading at home is just as important as any reading at school



S.T.A.R.

**Share
Talk
Ask
Questions
Read**

We have put together this leaflet to provide you with some information about how we teach reading in school and to give you some ideas about helping with pre-reading at home.

Teaching Reading in School

Reading is often taught as a whole class session with the teacher using an enlarged text on the computer or "big book" so that all the children can see and join in as letters, words and sentences are pointed to. The teacher acts as a "model reader" showing the children how to use certain strategies by talking through the process

of reading. The children may join in with the reading and are encouraged to ask and answer questions.


The children will also be involved in “Guided Reading” with the teacher and a small group of children. The children each have their own copy of the same book and may look at the story together, read on their own, to a partner or to the group while the teacher observes and gives support. The children will also be encouraged to talk about the story and characters, make predictions and identify key words.


Encouraging Reading at home

You can really give your child a head start by supporting their interest in books.


Talking about stories, reading every day and showing your child what an amazing new world that opens up through reading, will motivate and inspire an amazing skill and fun hobby that can last for their whole life!


Fun activities to get going...

 Make books part of every day life, create a book corner at home, have your books, magazines, papers in this area – get your child to decorate a label, and make cosy with cushions etc...


 When making choices about books, talk to your child about the ‘look’ of a story...


Does it look interesting? What might happen? Can they flick through a book.


 Talk about the author’s name – help your child become familiar with the term ‘author’, and think about authors they like e.g. Lauren Child (Charlie and Lola stories.)


 Look at the covers, end covers, pictures, blurb etc – Discuss what might happen in this story.


Do you think you will enjoy it?


 Before your child can read let them tell the story from the pictures – talk about what they think will happen next, let them turn the pages.

 Make story boxes with props from around the house to go with a story, and bring it to life. Acting out parts is a great way to keep attention going.


 Let your child see you reading books, magazines and newspapers (it is good for boys to see male role models reading!) – climb into that reading corner!


 Encourage children to notice and read the print around them, i.e. street names, shop names, road signs, etc.


 Don’t forget traditional nursery rhymes – children often know the words and love to pretend to “read” them.

 Read the words on television screens or computer screens - spend time talking about the characters in programmes.

 Join the Library – let children browse and choose books.

 Books are expensive but it is important that children have some favourite stories and information books to keep.

 Stories on CD are loved by children. There is something special about a “different voice” telling a story.

 Games and puzzles are a fantastic way of helping your child to read. Many games are especially designed to develop language and reading skills.