



Holly Park's Guide to...
Reading with your Child at Home



EYFS & KS1: Top Tips

'By starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their child the opportunity to be the best they can be: children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing.'
(National Literacy Trust, 2020)

If there is one thing that we would want you to do to support your child's learning at home then it is, undoubtedly, reading. The benefits are endless, not only supporting a child's education and academic growth but their personal and cognitive development too. It should be fun - a time to laugh, talk and learn together as you enjoy the language, pictures, information, characters and stories contained within a book. At school, we support your child to progress their reading skills but it is also important that this is continued at home. Where possible, you should allow time to read their assigned Bug Club books with them as well as enjoy fun, engaging pictures books together too. Children are welcome to take books home every day.

General Tips:

- Be a reader yourself. Children need to witness adults reading, in order for it to have value. Books, newspapers, magazines, online articles – it doesn't matter.
- Turn off distractions (tv, computers, tablets, phones, etc) including your own! Make sure you are comfortable.
- Share a book with your child for five-ten minutes every day, bed time is a good time for most families.
- Use the pictures as a basis for discussion. Before you start a new book; look at the cover – what do they think it will be about and why? As you progress, talk about the pictures – what do they think will happen next?
- Encourage your child to **listen** to you as you read, and let them join in with the parts they know
- Try to read a range of different books – fiction, non-fiction, comics and magazines if this is what your child would prefer to read.
- If they have enjoyed a particular book, encourage them to take it in to school to show and share with their class. Crucially, they can encourage others to read too.

Phonics/Bug Club Tips:

- When they are reading – encourage your child to sound out the word using sounds rather than letter names.
- If your child is struggling with a word encourage them to think of a word that would make sense. Does it sound right? Does it make sense?
- Talk about what is happening in the story, and what they think might happen next.

If you would like further support then please speak to the class teacher or contact Ms Sampson via the office (office@hollypark.barnetmail.net) and she will get back to you. We are here to help!