



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL
Pickering Community Junior School

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Dear parents and carers

At Pickering Community Junior School, we are determined that *every* child will be a reader and competent speller. As part of this ambition, we utilise whole staff training and resources for a phonics and spelling scheme called *Read Write Inc*. This is one of the DFE's accredited schemes and from our experience, it has a tremendous impact on our pupils' confidence and outcomes.

At PCJS, the programme is made up of three aspects:

- * ***Read Write Inc Phonics*** – primarily for pupils in years 3 and 4 who are not yet completely fluent with their speed sounds (and which builds on Bug Club Phonics that was delivered at the Infant School)
- * ***Read Write Inc Spelling*** – a targeted programme for pupils who are confident with all speed sounds
- * ***Read Write Inc Fresh Start*** – for pupils in years 5 and 6 who require some additional support

As part of these programmes, children will be taught in much smaller (sometimes mixed year) groups and will be grouped based on their reading ability, ensuring that we can target children's specific needs more effectively. The scheme contains some new and exciting resources and has been proven to significantly raise standards in reading, writing, as well as speaking and listening.

All children will take part in the *Read Write Inc* programme from 8.50am on a morning. Therefore, it is really important that your child arrives on time to school so that they don't miss out on any vital parts of the lesson. Your child may be taught by a different member of staff, and in a different room, depending on which group they have been allocated. Groups are continually monitored and reviewed and children are re-assessed on a half termly basis so that we can ensure that the activities are appropriately matched to your child's level.

Children who are in Year 4 on the RWI Phonics programme will shortly be receiving a decodable reading book, matched to their group. These books are designed to *only* cover sounds that the children are confident in, with the sole aim of increasing reading speed and fluency. Children in Year 3 will receive a speed sounds chart which displays all the sounds that they need to be fluent in in order to become a competent reader. Up until half term, the children will carry out some intensive work on these sounds before being allocated a phonics group. All children will continue to bring home a reading book or a 'sharing' book (if they also have a RWI Phonics book) that may be pitched slightly higher than their reading ability. It is important that, as well as ensuring that children can decode with fluency, that we all continue to encourage the children to read for



pleasure; continuing to have access to quality 'real' books is a really important part of their reading journey.

Additional to the provision devoted to reading in school, the Reading Den will be open this week during lunchtimes. This is space is specifically designed for the children to have a quiet space in which to enjoy a book. They are welcome to bring their school reading book in and read or choose from the wide range of titles available in the Reading Den. Our Reading Den is managed by our very helpful Year 6 monitors who will help the children locate a book they want to read, listen to them read. They have even been known to read a story sometimes, too.

Reading buddies are also on hand during Thursday and Friday lunchtimes to listen to children read who have found it tricky to complete the three reads as part of their weekly home learning task. Children will be heard read by a Year 6 child for up to 15 minutes, depending on how much reading at home they have completed. This usually takes place within Mrs Mintoft's classroom.

Further information as to how you can support your child at home with reading and spelling will shortly be available on the school website. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M De Barr
Headteacher

Mrs S Mintoft
Reading Lead

