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28 January, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### New Reading Scheme!

We are very pleased to have recently acquired a new reading programme called 'Bug Club' which we would like to tell you about. Our wonderful PTA's fundraising over the course of the year will help to cover the cost of the books.

The books will be introduced to the children in phases, according to year group starting with Key Stage 1 over the next few weeks. The books are very varied in topic and genre and designed for a high level of interest and enjoyment. The books will be used alongside our existing Oxford Reading Tree scheme. Each class teacher will decide which type of book children will take home. In Key Stage two, the progressive scheme continues right until the end of Year six, with some very challenging books, so all children will remain on the reading scheme.

Our expectation remains that books are taken home and children will read at least three times a week, ideally with an adult. This is important for all children as they are developing a wide range of reading skills across their school life.

Below is the information of how Bug Club suggest the books should be used at home.

*Bug Club is a finely levelled reading scheme, which ensures that all children can find books at exactly the right level for them. Inside every book there are notes to help you make the most of reading with your child.*

*Inside Front Cover: for younger children, these notes identify difficult words with which children may need help and give ideas and strategies to help you feel confident that you know how best to help. For older children, the notes are intended to deepen each child's understanding of the book. They provide background information about the time or place the book was written or sometimes information about the author or illustrator.*

*Inside back cover: these notes suggest puzzles and challenges that help children think about their reading. These include 'Find it!' activities that encourage children to revisit the text; 'Share it!' tasks that may involve making or writing something; and other tasks that offer ideas for further reading.*

### **Getting involved:**

#### **The reader**

*Until they are fluent readers, younger children will benefit from reading aloud to you as often as possible. By the time they are in Years 5 or 6, many children prefer to read silently to themselves. Create quiet opportunities for them to do so, but then talk to them about the book they are reading.*

#### **Sharing reading**

*When sharing a book with your child, try to take opportunities to talk about the book – before, during and after reading.*

#### **Before reading:**

*Look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?*

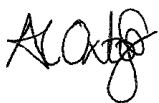
*While reading: support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.*

*After reading: talk about the book. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words how and why to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.*

Attached with this letter is a PDF of a progress map for the scheme, with information about what children are learning when they are on different book bands. The explanations will support you when reading with your child and will suggest ways in which you can help them. An ideal time to refer to this information would be when your child moves onto a new colour book band.

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions about this scheme, and please bear with us as we are introducing and implementing the scheme across the school.

Yours sincerely



Miss A. Oxtoby  
Head of School