

Dear Parents/Carers and pupils of Ifield School,

At Ifield School we recognise the importance of all pupils enjoying books and developing their reading skills.

Reading is the key to independent learning but more importantly life skills and therefore sharing books is given a high priority by all staff at Ifield School.

A book, which may be a scheme book, sensory book or a book selected by the pupil, will be sent home with your child daily for you to enjoy together.

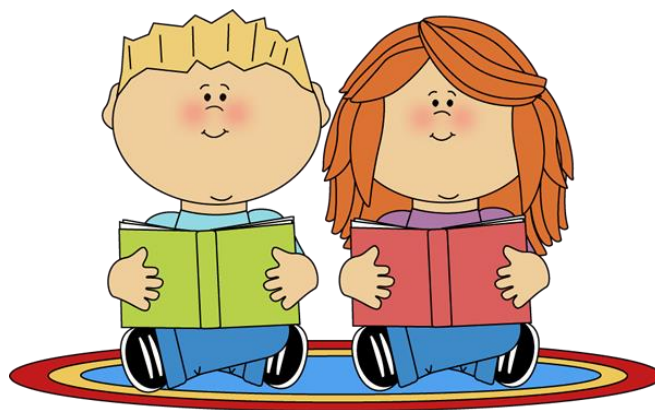
We encourage parent/carers to share this book with your child as frequently as you can and record your comments in the reading record book or learning journal about how your child has enjoyed the book.

Teachers and teaching assistants will also record comments so that you are able to monitor how your child is developing in school and also be aware of any suggestions/strategies that may help your child's progress.

In addition Ifield School will also be introducing "Guided Reading Sessions" where pupils will have the opportunity to share a book with a teacher in a small group situation.

We hope that you are in full support of our home/school partnership and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Happy Reading.



Top tips when sharing your child's book

- Talk about the front cover - What do you think the story is going to be about?
- Draw attention to the author and illustrator's names - Have you read any books before by the same author/illustrator?
- Read the title, pointing to each word as it is read.
- Encourage your child to turn the pages if they are able to do so.
- Look at the pictures and point out key features that may help your child decode the text.
- Point to each word as it is read. (Either yourself, your child or together.)
- Decode words by looking for picture clues or predicting/guessing the next word, identifying the initial sound or sounding out the whole word phonetically.
- Remind your child about tricky words. Words that can't be sounded out e.g. the, because
- Read a word and ask your child to point to the word in the text which has been said. "Where is the word mum?"
- Ask questions about what has happened in the story. "How do you think Kipper is feeling? Why do you think that?"
- When reading to your child use lots of expression especially when people are talking. Point out punctuation that helps you know "how" to read the story.

