

Dear Parents and Carers

This year we are making some changes to our home reading expectations.

Reading is a fundamental skill that we aim to nurture throughout every child's time at Clapgate. We want all children to become fluent, confident and enthusiastic readers. To do this, we, parents and staff, have to work together. This year, there are a few changes in the books your child will bring home and how we want children to use these books to develop their reading skills.

Children who are following Read, Write, Inc. Phonics

Firstly, your child is still being taught Read, Write, Inc. (RWI) phonics (this applies mainly to children in Reception and Years 1, 2 and 3) will receive a login to Oxford Owl; this will be on the front of their homework book.

Each week, their teacher will upload, to Oxford Owl, the book they have been reading in RWI and a quiz to go along with this. This is to encourage your child to share their learning from the week. The children will have a week to read this and complete the quiz.

They will also bring home a RWI book bag book that closely matches this electronic book. We ask that the children read this book bag book **at least 3 times** over the week. This will improve their reading fluency and comprehension.

Children who are no longer following Read, Write, Inc. phonics

If your child is no longer following our RWI scheme then they will bring home an Oxford Reading Tree book that matches their reading level. We ask that the children read **at least 3 times for 20 minutes** over the week. However, it would be great if you could encourage your child to do read daily. This could be reading anything from magazines to football programmes, recipes, and instruction manuals. This will improve their reading fluency and comprehension.

Finally, **all children from Nursery to Year 6** will also bring home a library book of their choosing for you to enjoy. These books can be read independently by older children or snuggled up with a grown-up as a key part of developing a love of reading begins with being read to.

Alongside these books, children will also bring home a reading record. This is for parents and children to write in to record what has been read at home. Staff will keep their own records of in-school reading, so will not necessarily comment in the yellow reading records, unless they feel this is useful.

From September, we ask that every child brings their book bag into school **every Thursday**. This will allow teachers to change all the books at the same time and help us keep track of each child's home reading. Staff will ring home about any missing book bags to request that they are brought in at the end of the day or the next

morning. Hopefully everyone will get quickly into the routine of remembering book bags on Thursdays; this will save staff time and allow them to maximise time spent on teaching.

We have invested heavily in books recently (spending at least £3000 on the RWI book bag books and £5000 on library books in the last two years), and we ask you to encourage your child to look after these books and make sure they don't go missing or get damaged.

Thank you for your continued support. We know everyone is busy, but by ensuring that your child completes all their set reading activities you will be making a huge difference to their progress.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher or our reading leaders (Miss Sunderland or Mrs Smith), Miss Taylor or Mrs Singleton.

Miss Sunderland and Mrs Smith