



# St. John's C.E. Primary School

*'High standards through a caring community'*

January 2017

## St. John's Home/ School Reading Partnership

Dear Parent or Carer,

At St John's we think reading is vital to your child's development. We firmly believe that by working as a partnership between home and school, we will develop the reading skills of all children, enabling them to reach their true potential. Regular practise is essential to gain fluency, understanding and confidence, all of which are necessary to support a love for reading. As such, we expect each child to read a minimum of 4 times per week and for this to be detailed in your child's reading journal.

Over the past few years we have invested heavily in the reading material in school, aiming to interest even the most reluctant readers. This year, in addition to new home reading books and library books, we have also bought into a digital resource, Bug Club, where children can access e-books online. We are very excited about the opportunities this resource offers for you and your child to interact with reading. We hope that this will help to engage all pupils, and particularly those boys that we have identified as reading less regularly, and therefore attaining less well, than their female classmates. The attached letter explains how to use this resource more fully and your child has received an individual user name and password in their reading record to enable them to access this resource.

We understand that, at times, reading a school reading book is not the most interesting option and so want to make it completely clear that it does not matter what you choose to read with your child, be it a school book, an e-book, a library book or another book which you have at home. What IS important is that reading takes place regularly and your child's class teacher can see the breadth of texts they have read in their reading records.

It is important that all children continue to read with an adult, regardless of their age and reading ability. Once children are able to read fluently, it would be helpful to discuss the text with them, to ensure comprehension and engagement with their reading material and to discuss the choices an author may have made. Many parents have expressed the need for further advice on supporting reading at home and so a booklet explaining the importance of reading and the approach at St John's is also included, which gives some guidance as to the skills that the children need to build up when reading. We have also provided some exemplar questions, which you could discuss with your child, on a bookmark so that you can keep them to hand when reading together.

Please endeavour to hear your child read (school, library or e-book) four times per week and record this in their reading journal. If you have any difficulties in meeting these expectations, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

We appreciate your on-going support in this matter and feel certain that if we work together we can gain the very best outcomes for all our children at St. John's.

Yours sincerely,

**Patrick Rayner**  
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mr Patrick Rayner  
Poplar Street, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, SK4 3DG

