

11th September 2015

Dear Parents,

At Middlefield we are committed to ensuring that our children become skilled and confident readers as well as developing a genuine love of books and reading.

With this in mind we have been reviewing our home / school reading programme and we are writing to clarify our system. We are expecting you to read with your child 5 times a week and sign the reading diary to show this. The children are able to change their books as often as necessary. In addition, if you could have a 'book talk' with your child at least once a week this would be very useful. A 'book talk' is a conversation about what they have read; maybe a retelling of the story, describing a character or a verbal book review. Questions such as 'Why do you think the character said that?' are useful to develop skills of inference, and thinking beyond straight retrieval of facts moving towards a personal response to what they are reading. We know that many of you do this at the end of each reading session with your child and that is fantastic!

In school the children will read every day in Guided Reading sessions. Once a week this will be with the class teacher. During this session we will check the Reading diaries. If your child has managed 5 reads and a book talk since the previous Guided Reading session they will gain a sticker. At the end of term there will be recognition for the children who have consistently achieved this goal.

As always, we thank you for your support and recognise that you have a crucial role in encouraging and enabling your child to be an enthusiastic and proficient reader.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Glenda Dunn, Emily Wallace and Louise Barnes
Class Teachers
On behalf of Middlefield Primary Academy