




St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Headteacher Mr Simon Billings
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We 
Maths



We are all
writers ... 

We are growing
our learning 

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Dear Parents,

We have been reviewing the Reading Scheme at our school to ensure that when children are bringing books home to read, they are the books that are most suitable for them and their current level of reading.

In short, we have looked closely at the books we send home in EYFS, KS1 and into KS2. We want the books that the children take home to be fully decodable, which means the children can sound out and read new words, with greater ease. This will have a positive effect on their fluency and understanding of the texts that they read.

At the moment, there is great excitement amongst children (and parents) about children aspiring and then attaining that next stage. However, what is often the case, is that children don't have a comprehensive enough grasp of the sounds and how they relate to words in a level before they move to the next stage. It becomes a kudos thing, whereby we want our child to be at the next stage – because that's better than child x.

Our other (and main) concern is that we teach reading in EYFS and KS1 through the phases of Letters and Sounds and this doesn't relate to the stages on the reading books.

So,

We are re-organising our reading books so that they relate very closely to the Letters and Sounds programme that we follow. Reading books will not be in stages anymore, they will be colour coded and linked to the 6 Phases from Letters and Sounds. This means that we can ensure that children have reading books that are directly linked to the phase of letters and sounds they are currently on.

There will be a transition period over this Half Term, whereby we change the labeling of the books so that they relate against the six phases. This is inevitable because of the amount of reading books we have to change over and the fact that several hundred of them are in the hands of your children.

During the next few weeks, you will notice a new sticker system on the books. These relate directly to the phase of letters and Sounds, which your child is learning in school.

Light Green - Phase 1

Grey - Phase 2

St John's Green Abbey Fields Site (Years F, 1, 5, 6)
5 Circular Road East
Colchester
CO2 7SZ



St John's Green Town Site (Years 2, 3, 4)
St John's Green
Colchester
CO2 7HE

Cont'd ...

Purple - Phase 3 single sounds
Peach - Phase 3 digraphs
Red - Phase 3 trigraphs
Blue - Phase 4 consolidation
Brown - Phase 5 digraphs
Dark Green - Phase 5 split digraphs
Gold - Phase 5 consolidation
White - Phase 6 ed and ing endings
Pink - Phase 6 er and est sounds
Lilac - Phase 6 other suffixes
Black - Phase 6 consolidation
Yellow - Deepening Comprehension 1
Orange - Deepening Comprehension 2

Please bear in mind though, that we are in a transition period and there will be a bit of a crossover between the new labeling system and the 'old' stages and I would ask you to please bear with us.

If you have any questions at all, please just speak to your child's class teacher.

Please also remember that there is more information on the school website about Letters and Sounds https://st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk/website/reading_and_phonics/288515 or Curriculum Information and then Reading and Phonics.

Many thanks

Clare Skinner
Assistant Headteacher