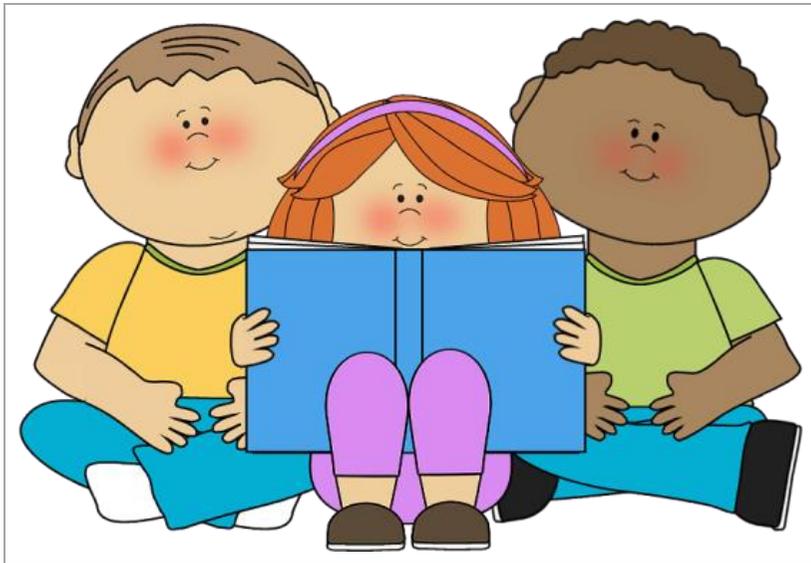


Parents' Guide to Reading KS2



*The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!*
~ Dr Seuss

Parent Partnership

At St Simon's, we believe that parents play a key part in helping their child learn to read. School and home working together in partnership create the ideal setting for encouraging a love of reading.

We appreciate the commitment parents make to help their children become confident readers and hope that this guide will help you to truly develop a love of reading at home with your child.



*"Whatever we do,
we do it for the glory of God."*

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Reading Records

Each child is provided with an individual reading record. Your child should bring their reading record and reading book home every night and return it to school again the following day.

How to use the reading record:

- Children write the date, title of the book and the page(s) read.
- It is expected that children read every night.
- By Year 3, your child should also be able to write a comment on what they have read eg. *"I liked the main character Stacey because she was really kind to other people."*
- Reading books are changed in school by staff in lower KS2 and then, as they become more independent, the children themselves.



Reading Bands

The 2014 National Curriculum is underpinned by the idea of mastery: that children learn fewer things in greater depth. Children at St Simon's are therefore not moved onto the next colour band unless they have shown secure understanding at their current level. Children are not expected to rush through all of the books in a particular band – some children may read the same book several times – this is to ensure that children fully understand each text and develop a mastery of reading at each level.

When children move from colour banded books onto library books it is important that you continue to read with your child, helping them to identify their favourite authors and genres as they delve into deeper and more challenging texts.

Coloured Bands in order

Pink
Red
Yellow
Blue
Green
Orange
Turquoise
Purple
Gold
White
Lime
Brown

Free Reading – pupils receive reading lists of library books for their year group. Pupils must read books from this list to ensure breadth, depth and challenge. Pupils may still read other books at home which they are interested in and note these in their reading records, however the majority of books should be from the year group lists.

Questions

Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand text

- What does this word mean in this sentence?
- Find one word which means...
- What word/phrase in the story tells you what ___ was like?

Identify and explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts

- Who/where/how/what did...
- True or false...
- Tell me two things about...

Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts

- Can you tell me the five key events in the story?
- How have characters actions changed from the beginning of the story?

Make inferences from the text

- Why did...
- How do you know that...
- Did you like ___ character? Why/why not?

Predict what may happen on the basis of what has been read so far

- How do you think the story will end?
- What might the character do on the next page?

Reading with your child

As children grow older they become more confident with their reading and often no longer wish to read to an adult. If your child wishes to do so, allow them time to read by themselves in silence, as this is a good skill to develop.

To ensure that your child's understanding of the text continues to deepen, we encourage you to still talk to your child about what they are reading and, where possible, ask questions to check their understanding.

Questions to ask before reading:

- What made you choose this book?
- What genre is it?
- What part of the blurb really caught your interest?
- What do you think might happen?
- Have you read anything by this author before?

Questions to ask after reading:

- Was the book as you expected?
- Was there anything you disliked about the story?
- Can you tell me your favourite part of the story?
- Would you recommend this book to someone else? If so, what would you say to make them read it? If not, why not?

Encouraging a love of reading

One of the key areas we wish to develop in our children at St Simon's is a love of reading through reading for pleasure.

Ideas for home

- Make reading a regular activity: build in time during the day dedicated to reading. Make this a special time for all the family.
- Always end your reading sessions on a positive note, such as a compliment on how your child's fluency is improving, or a comment about how you can't wait to read again tomorrow.
- Look for opportunities to read books which are about topics your child is really interested in. Magazines, leaflets and newspaper articles count as reading too!
- Share your own love of reading: talk about books you loved when you were younger and be seen reading yourself.
- Visit your local library.
- Look out for author events at local libraries and book stores near you. See if your child's favourite author has a website. Some authors also have emails which you can use to contact them and may even email you back!