**Homework**



September 23, 2019

****

Dear Parents,

We are beginning our **Borrow-A-Book** programme today. Practice reading the books as often as you can throughout the week. Re-reading the books will help to build fluency, sight word recognition, and most importantly-their confidence. Please return your child’s books to school each **Friday** in the bag provided. Please ensure that the “Reading Log” is filled out as well. There is no need to record the same book more than once when you re-read it.

\***How to read with your child**: Look at the cover. Tell them the title. Predict what the story might be about. Next, look through the book and talk about the pictures. What is happening? Who is in the story? Are their animals? A family? Then, read the book to your child pointing to each word as you read. Then let them try. Encourage pointing just below each word.

**What to do if…**

\*your child is not able to point to each word. I suggest holding their finger as they read to you. It is a skill that takes a little while for some little ones to master.

\*your child seems to be making up the story and says more words than are on the page. Go back and count the words with them. Tell them that what they say has to match the words/text on the page. If there are only 4 words, then they can only say 4 words.

\*your child says the word bunny for rabbit. You can point out that it was a great try but the word bunny would begin with the **b** sound not the **r** sound. Ask them to guess what the word could be. Make the r-r-r sound and point to the picture. Praise every effort. ☺

\*your child seems to have memorized the book. Yay! That is what we expect to happen. Continue to encourage them to point to the words and match what they say to the print. Please **do not cover the pictures.** We teach the children to look at the picture to gain meaning and support. As they learn more about sounds they will use the pictures to make sure their reading is accurate. Pictures cues are used well into grade 2 and 3.

**Zoo-Phonics**- Continue to review all letters, sounds and actions each evening. Go through all letters once then zero in on the letters in your child’s name. Once they have mastered those letters, focus on a-f. After they have a good grasp of those letters, add some more. Each child is different and **learning at their own pace**. There is no rush but very important that you stick with it.

**“Rock Star Words”**- Once your child has mastered letter and sound recognition, I will send home a list of “Rock Star” sight words that your child will practice reading each night. Once they can read all the words on the sheet quickly-without hesitation or prompting-sign the sheet and return it to school. I will listen to them read the words and send home a new list to practice.

The amount of time you should spend working with your child on homework is about 15 minutes. If it is taking longer than that please let me know. Homework time should be an enjoyable time, not a stressful one.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the school. 627-4074. I’m here to help ☺

Sincerely,

Mrs. C. Poole