## KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICE HANGING HEATON CE (VC) JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

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# News Sheet

Discussion topic: "Life is not a matter of holding good cards, but of playing a poor hand well." – Robert Louis Stevenson

27th May, 2021

#### Reading at KS1

The Government have announced a review of phonics teaching materials which has prompted us in school to look again at our phonics and reading provision. Traditionally our school attains excellent Phonics screening results at the end of year 1 and we consistently review our practice in line with current guidance to ensure we are keeping up to date and supporting our children in the best way possible.

As part of this, we are told that young readers need to <u>read and reread</u> decodable books a number of times in order to rehearse and consolidate their knowledge and understanding. For this reason, <u>from next half term our Key stage 1 children on decodable books will keep the same book for a week</u>. They will read these in school and we are asking families to support us by rereading these at home regularly thus reinforcing the letter sounds and patterns children have been learning. Each reread should be recorded in Reading Logs.

These reading books will now be changed just once a week in school.

We also support children looking at other books as we believe in encouraging a lifelong love of reading.

#### Covid-19 update

Infection rates in our local area appear to be increasing at an alarming rate and it is essential that we all do our best to stay safe by following the guidance in place.

Unfortunately, after a number of 'clear' weeks, we now have families self isolating after family members have tested positive although currently we have had no immediate school community members test positive.

It serves to remind us that, whilst we are enjoying more freedoms, Covid is still a potential threat and we really do not want to endure another lockdown if this can be at all avoided by us being cautious and considerate.

Due to increasing local rates and in the interests of keeping things consistent for our children, <u>our current Covid procedures</u> will remain in place at least until we break up for the Summer holidays.

Please also bear in mind that school guidance states that, as would usually be the case, I cannot authorise term time holidays unless under exceptional circumstances. Children have missed an awful lot of face to face schooling and every day counts more than ever at the moment. Whilst I know some of us may be craving holidays, please ensure these are booked outside of school time and to the UK or green list countries only so as to avoid guarantine regulations and further absence from school.

### Training day - Friday 28th May

Please note: School will be closed to children on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May for staff training.

"Let all that you do be done in love"