Wednesday 9th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading Books

At Park Hill Infant School, we follow the 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' Phonics and Reading programme.
Children are taught a phonics lesson every day. Children are taught to read by applying their phonic knowledge to reading a book (matched to their level) in a small group, at least three times a week with a trained member of staff. Your child may also receive daily additional practice to help secure their learning. The children will bring this book that they have read in school, home to read to you.

In order for us to teach your children to read effectively, your child's reading book **MUST** be kept in their book bag and brought to school every day. Failure to return books will result in other children not being able to be taught as they need that book and we cannot teach the lesson to a group of children without the book.

For the reasons listed above, **any books not returned to school may incur a £5 fee to replace the book** in order not to impact on our teaching of reading to other children.

The teaching of reading within the classroom is only part of your child's learning, and the value given to reading at home is equally important. You can help your child to achieve their full potential by listening to them read their phonics book to develop their fluency and by reading to your child daily – books you can enjoy together. The free-choice sharing books children bring home are a great place to start.

Some parents have asked:
"My child is reading the books fluently at home. Do they need a more challenging book?"
No! We want children to be able to read fluently and not to find reading to be a chore or too difficult. Once they can read fluently, they can focus on adding expression when reading aloud and showing their understanding of the book. Please use the prompts on the back page of the books to check your child's understanding.

Your support with reading at home is essential and by working together, we can ensure your child achieves their full potential as a reader.

If you require any further guidance regarding our approach to reading or phonics, please do not hesitate to contact class teachers / myself (Reading Leader).

We thank you for your continued support and effort.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Newell
Assistant Headteacher / Reading Leader