



St Bartholomew's CE Primary School **Apple Class Newsletter**

20th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and enjoyed precious family time over the Easter period! Last term was a little unusual for us. We had an episode of chicken pox which meant that we had children in and out of school for about 3 weeks. We are so proud of how the children at home (with chicken pox) continued to engage in the online learning that was available. We loved seeing the learning on Tapestry and celebrating achievements from home.

Topic learning

This term, our topic is 'What animals live in our local river?' We are aiming to take a trip down to the local river to explore wildlife that is there. In order to do this, we are looking for some parent volunteers who would be willing to meet us down at the river, in order to help with adult ratios and allow the trip to go ahead. If this is something you would be willing to support with, please let me know via Tapestry so we can work out a date/time that is convenient to most people. We will learn about the river Glen and the river Welland and compare the two. We will learn about rivers and canals and also explore narrowboats and the purpose of these.

Star Readers

Apple Class did well with their home reading last term and the data for term 4 has been collected. As you know, we currently expect the children in Apple Class to read every night. There are 8 children who read every day last term. The following children have won a prize for being star readers for last term! Congratulations to:

Xander, Clara, Florrie, Tommy, Caitlin, Daisy, Esme, Peter, Rhys, Megan

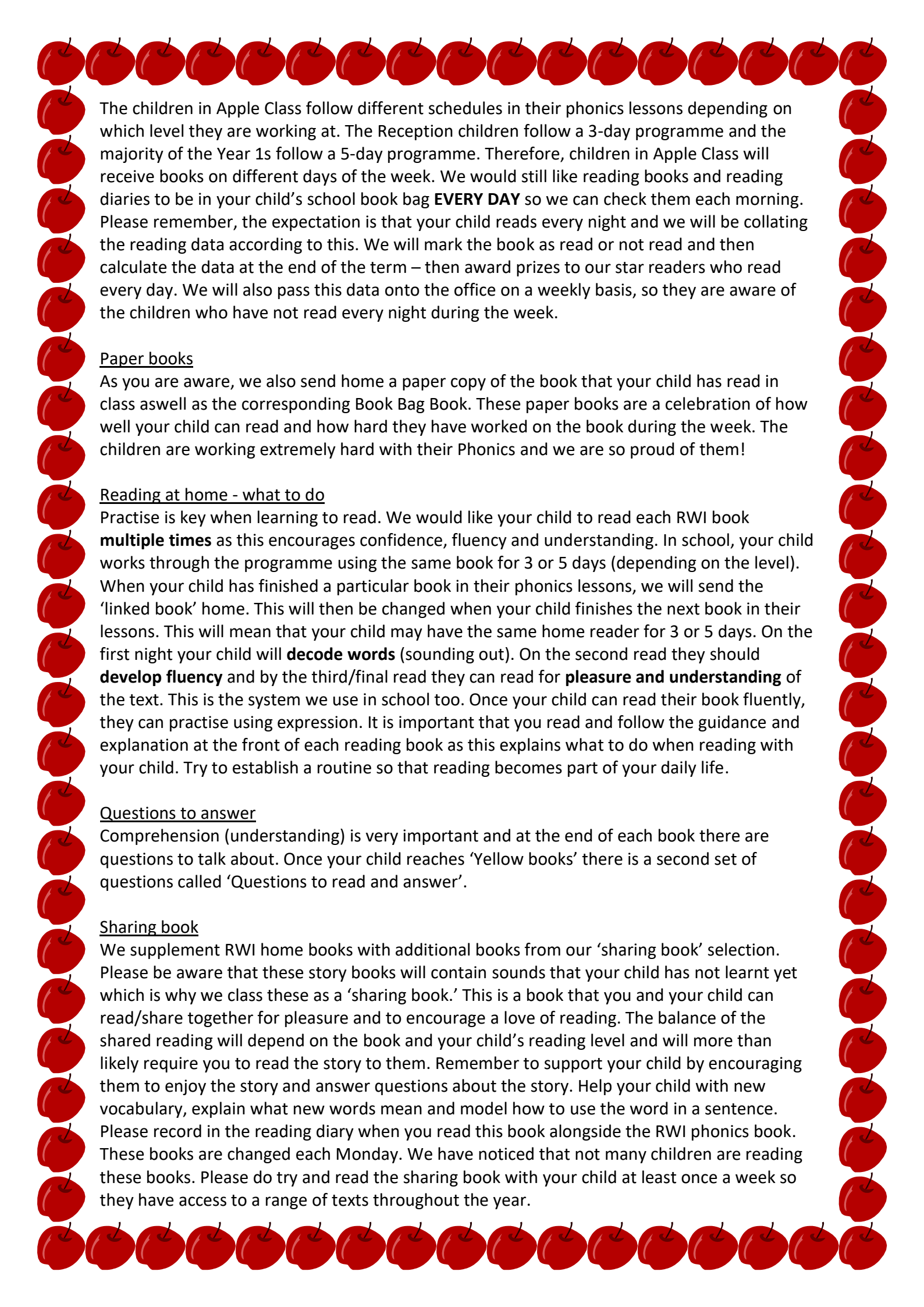
Home Reading Book Information Reminder

As you are aware, we teach daily phonics lessons using a scheme called Read Write Inc (RWI). At home, your child has a RWI Book Bag Book which supports your child's reading at home throughout EYFS and Key Stage 1. These books complement what your child is reading at school during phonics lessons and is a tight match to their phonics learning in class. Read Write Inc book bag books form the core books in our phonics reading scheme.



Read Write Inc Book Bag Books (RWI)

These books are your child's primary reading book. Depending on which RWI group your child is in, will depend on when your child receives a new reading book. All of Apple Class are now working on the main RWI scheme, so they will all take home a book that is 'thematically' linked to the book they are reading in school. These books contain words that your child will be able to phonetically decode along with red tricky words that your child needs to learn to read on sight.



The children in Apple Class follow different schedules in their phonics lessons depending on which level they are working at. The Reception children follow a 3-day programme and the majority of the Year 1s follow a 5-day programme. Therefore, children in Apple Class will receive books on different days of the week. We would still like reading books and reading diaries to be in your child's school book bag **EVERY DAY** so we can check them each morning. Please remember, the expectation is that your child reads every night and we will be collating the reading data according to this. We will mark the book as read or not read and then calculate the data at the end of the term – then award prizes to our star readers who read every day. We will also pass this data onto the office on a weekly basis, so they are aware of the children who have not read every night during the week.

Paper books

As you are aware, we also send home a paper copy of the book that your child has read in class as well as the corresponding Book Bag Book. These paper books are a celebration of how well your child can read and how hard they have worked on the book during the week. The children are working extremely hard with their Phonics and we are so proud of them!

Reading at home - what to do

Practise is key when learning to read. We would like your child to read each RWI book **multiple times** as this encourages confidence, fluency and understanding. In school, your child works through the programme using the same book for 3 or 5 days (depending on the level). When your child has finished a particular book in their phonics lessons, we will send the 'linked book' home. This will then be changed when your child finishes the next book in their lessons. This will mean that your child may have the same home reader for 3 or 5 days. On the first night your child will **decode words** (sounding out). On the second read they should **develop fluency** and by the third/final read they can read for **pleasure and understanding** of the text. This is the system we use in school too. Once your child can read their book fluently, they can practise using expression. It is important that you read and follow the guidance and explanation at the front of each reading book as this explains what to do when reading with your child. Try to establish a routine so that reading becomes part of your daily life.

Questions to answer

Comprehension (understanding) is very important and at the end of each book there are questions to talk about. Once your child reaches 'Yellow books' there is a second set of questions called 'Questions to read and answer'.

Sharing book

We supplement RWI home books with additional books from our 'sharing book' selection. Please be aware that these story books will contain sounds that your child has not learnt yet which is why we class these as a 'sharing book.' This is a book that you and your child can read/share together for pleasure and to encourage a love of reading. The balance of the shared reading will depend on the book and your child's reading level and will more than likely require you to read the story to them. Remember to support your child by encouraging them to enjoy the story and answer questions about the story. Help your child with new vocabulary, explain what new words mean and model how to use the word in a sentence. Please record in the reading diary when you read this book alongside the RWI phonics book. These books are changed each Monday. We have noticed that not many children are reading these books. Please do try and read the sharing book with your child at least once a week so they have access to a range of texts throughout the year.



Finally

Our aim is that all children become confident young readers – above all, we want them to develop a life-long love of reading. Please take time to praise your child's efforts as learning to read takes hard work, perseverance and effort. Your child will progress quicker if they are encouraged and feel confident. **Please ensure that your child's reading book is in school every day.** We will be changing books on different days depending on when your child starts a new book in their lessons. We also read with certain children on a daily basis during the afternoons and their home reading book will need to be in school for this. Unfortunately, a new book cannot be issued until the previous book has been returned.

We want your child to enjoy our new books but please look after them. They are very expensive to replace. Please use the plastic reading book wallet to your child's book bag which is for you to keep the reading book in, so we can ensure they do not get damaged. Please ensure you keep the books in the reading wallet as we will ask for contributions to replace damaged books.

Please continue to contact us via Tapestry or speak to an Apple Class staff member at the gate if you have any questions regarding your child's reading or any other class related queries.

Many thanks,

Miss Cannon

Apple Class Teacher/Key Stage 1 Leader

Curriculum Information for Term 5

Literacy	<u>Phonics</u> We follow the Read. Write Inc programme to teach your child the sounds they need to know.
	<u>Text</u> The children will share different types of texts this term which will include fiction and non-fiction books about the topic as well as lots of story time sessions. If your child has any story books that they would like to share with their friends then please name them and send them in their book bags. All books will be returned.
	<u>Spelling and Grammar</u> The EYFS children will revise their set 1 and set 2 sounds. They will read real and alien words containing these sounds and write sentences containing set 1 and set 2 sounds. The Year 1 children will continue revising their set 3 sounds and read real and alien words containing the sounds. Please use the sound cards and words in your sound packs in order to support your child to develop further in their Phonics learning.
Maths	<u>Year 1</u> Measurement - Weight and Volume Number - Multiplication and Division Number - Fractions <u>EYFS</u> Building numbers beyond 10 Counting patterns beyond 10 Spatial reasoning Matching and rotation Addition/subtraction
Science	This term, the children will learn about 'Animals including Humans'. We will look at the life cycles of caterpillars and tadpoles. We will observe, compare and sort a range of animals.
Geography	In Geography, we aim to take a walk to our local river to explore wildlife in the village. We will look at the differences between canals and rivers, we will look at narrowboats and their purpose and we will identify and name a range of common animals found near a river.
Art	The children will learn about 'collage' and create a collage of the river Glen.
Music	The children will study 'Dynamics'.
Computing	The children will learn about 'Lego Builders'.
RE	The children will learn about 'Our Special Things'. We will compare our own special objects with religious objects and describe what a special religious object is.
PE	The children will take part in 2 outdoor sessions per week. These lessons will be Athletics and Swimming. (Swimming to be confirmed) PE days will continue to be on a Monday and Thursday until informed otherwise. (Swimming day to be confirmed at a later date)
PSHE	The children will be looking at the unit 'Drug Education'.