**New Book Bag Books**

I am very excited to tell you about the new books we have bought to enhance your child’s learning to read journey. This week they will be bringing home new Book Bag Books to share with you at home. They will be carefully chosen to support their reading in school.

**What can I do to help? Is there anything that I shouldn't do?**

Your child will bring different sorts of books home from school. They will bring home two books each week. One is for them to read to you (their Book Bag Book or free reader book). Please trust your child’s teacher to choose the book that will help your child the most as they learn to read. They will also bring home a book for you to read to them or share with them (their library book). The children will have chosen their own library book.

With their reading book (the phonically decodable Bag Book book) help your child to sound out the letters in words and then to ‘push’ the sounds together to make a whole word. Try not to refer to the letters by their names. Help your child to focus on the sounds. You can hear how to say the sounds correctly at this link: <https://ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/#lg=1&slide=2>

Sometimes your child might bring home a picture book that they know well. Please don’t say, ‘This is too easy.’ Instead, encourage your child to tell you the story out loud; ask them questions about things that happen or what they think about some of the characters in the story. The Book Bag Books contain lots of supportive suggestions on how to listen to your child read: both the decoding element of reading and the development of their understanding of the book.

We know parents and carers are very busy people. But if you can find time to read to your child as much as possible, as well as listen to them read, it helps him or her to learn about and love books and stories. They also learn new words and what they mean. You can use their library book for this and you can find out about other good stories to read to your child here: <https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>.

Show that you are interested in reading yourself and talk about reading as a family.

**Does it matter if my child misses a lesson or two?**

It matters a lot if your child misses school. The way we teach children to read is very progressive and well organised, so even one missed lesson means that your child has not learnt something that they need to know to be a good reader.

**Returning books each week**

It is also very important that your child brings in their book bags and books for changing every Thursday. Their reading book will be changed every week, but they may wish to keep their library book for more than one week. Please send us a message in their reading records to let us know about their reading at home.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Barmby

Reading Lead

Assistant Headteacher