

12th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to introduce our new **Reading Journals**, which will play an important role in supporting your child's reading progress this year. At our school, we know that children achieve their very best when home and school work closely together, and reading is an area where your support makes a huge difference.

To help your child grow as a confident and skilled reader, we ask that they read **at least four times each week**. This might be reading aloud to you, sharing a book together, or reading independently if they are ready. Every time your child reads, please record it in their Reading Journal. This helps us to see how often they are reading, how they are getting on with their book, and when it may be time for a book change.

Our reading curriculum is built around five key skills known as **DERIC**:

Decode – using phonics and word knowledge to read unfamiliar words

Explain – understanding and discussing vocabulary and meaning

Retrieve – finding key information in a text

Interpret – using clues to “read between the lines” and understand deeper meaning

Choice – exploring why an author has chosen particular words, structures or techniques

These skills help children become fluent, thoughtful readers who enjoy and understand a wide range of texts.

By supporting your child's reading at home—listening to them, asking questions, and encouraging regular practice—you are helping to strengthen these essential skills. Your involvement really does make a lasting difference to their progress and their confidence.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about the Reading Journals or how to help with reading at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Miss Coombe Headteacher



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