

Whitecote Primary School

Headteacher: Frances Stead

Telephone: 0113 2164800

Website: www.whitecoteprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @whitecote

Facebook: Whitecote Primary School

Instagram: whitecoteprimaryschool



**Wellington Grove
Bramley, Leeds
LS13 2LQ**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Home Reading

We are continually looking for ways to strengthen our home reading offer so that every child can develop a genuine love of reading. After reviewing our current approach, and listening to feedback from staff, children and families, we are making some changes that we believe will support children more effectively as they grow as readers.

As part of this, children who reach the **brown colour band** (after completing lime) will no longer be expected to take home colour-banded reading books. At this stage, they are typically ready for richer, more engaging texts that broaden their vocabulary, deepen comprehension, and help them discover the joy of reading through stories that truly captivate them.

Instead, they will have access to a wider range of classic and modern novels, as well as an expanded selection of non-fiction books designed to spark curiosity and maintain enthusiasm. Colour-banded books will still be available as an option but will gradually be reduced in number and availability.

We are also making a small change to how we celebrate home reading. The Home Reading Leaderboards in Key Stage 2 will no longer reflect children reading at home with their parents. In their place, we will be introducing a new reward system designed to recognise children's reading in a more inclusive and meaningful way, and in a way that best befits their ages and interests. The Home Reading Leaderboards will continue in EYFS and Key Stage 1, where they remain an effective motivator for younger children and their families.

We also want to make families aware that the new range of novels and non-fiction books we are introducing represent a significant investment for the school, and some individual titles are considerably more expensive than the colour-banded books. If a book is lost or not returned, we will ask for a **flat £5 contribution** to help cover the cost of replacement. This ensures we can continue providing high-quality texts for all children to enjoy.

These changes reflect our ongoing commitment to creating a reading culture in which every child can find books they love, build confidence, and develop the habits that lead to lifelong reading. If you have any questions about these updates, please feel free to contact us.

As we embed this new home reading approach, we may look to make amendments to further improve our home reading offer. We will make sure that you are informed of any further changes that we look to make.

Thank you for your continued support,

Frances Stead

Headteacher



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

