



St Mark's C of E Junior School
Robert Burns Avenue
Cheltenham
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Headteacher: Mrs A Fitch

All enquiries: admin@st-marks.gloucs.sch.uk

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Dear Parents,

We would like to make you aware of some changes to our Reading Scheme. We have recently purchased a new reading scheme called Little Wandle Fluency, many thanks to the PTA (and you as parents) for raising the funds for this to be made possible.

This is a rich resource which builds on the skills learnt in phonics (decoding, segmenting and blending) and promotes reading fluency. Fluency books begin at Stage 1 and finish at Stage 10. Benhall Infant School begins teaching Little Wandle Fluency during the Autumn Term of Year 2, we then continue the scheme as part of transition.

We would like to thank the PTA for helping fund the purchase of the new scheme.

Currently our reading spine is structured as follows:

Fluency 1 – 10 (Year 3 children mainly)	Children can also have a Library Book or read from the Year Group Book List alongside these books.
Stage 8 - 20 Oxford Reading Tree books (Year 4, 5 and 6 mainly)	
Free readers	

The new scheme will be structured as follows:

Fluency 1-10 (This will begin in Benhall and then children Lower School will continue working through the books)	Children can also have a Library Book or read from the Year Group Book List alongside these books.
Previous stages 15-16 will become S1 (Structured reading 1)	
Previous stages 17-18 will become S2 (Structured reading 2)	
Previous stages 19-20 will become S3 (Structured reading 3)	
Free reader – choose any book from the library	

Children on Fluency books currently

If your child is on a Fluency book, it will say F1, F2, F3 etc. on the reverse with the word-per-minute (WPM) reading rate.





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Once your child has completed Fluency 10, they will go onto structured books (S1, S2, S3) to allow them to access a range of different styles and genres enabling them to build their comprehension skills.

Children on Stage books currently

If your child is on a Stage book, it will have a number from 8 – 20 on the spine.

If your child is on Stage 8-14 they will be transferred to Fluency books, starting from a level appropriate to their current progress. This will enable them to increase confidence with decoding, segmenting and blending quickly.

If your child is currently on Stage 15 or 16, they will be bringing home an S1 reading book.

If your child is currently on Stage 17 or 18, they will be bringing home an S2 reading book.

If your child is currently on Stage 19 or 20, they will be bringing home an S3 reading book.

Assessment

Fluency 1-10 books are assessed following the Little Wandle Assessment criteria and move through the stages accordingly. Fluency is assessed against their reading rate at WPM.

Once on Structured reading, your child's class teacher will assess them periodically using age-appropriate comprehension questions, similar to those on the book mark you receive at the start of each year. It is highly beneficial for your child if you support them by asking them the VIPERS style questions on these book marks when you read at home. Additional copies of bookmarks will be available at Parents' Evening (17th & 18th March), should you require replacements.

Please be assured, that although your child may come home with a different type of book, they are still reading at the same level.

If you have any questions regarding your child's reading, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher

Best wishes,

Miss Thornhill
Reading Lead

Mrs O'Connor
Phonics Lead

