



September 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

We're excited to send home your child's reading record and their first reading book.

At our school, we encourage families to enjoy shared reading at least three times a week. Each time you read together, please write a short note in your child's reading record. This helps us celebrate their progress and love of reading!

In our classroom, we have a special display called the "Wild About Reading Tree." Every week your child has three reading entries, they'll move up the tree. When they reach the top, they'll earn a reading certificate!

### **Starting with Wordless Books**

To begin, your child will bring home a wordless book. These books are a wonderful way to build storytelling skills and spark imagination while we settle children into school and begin phonics lessons.

Here are some tips for using wordless books at home:

- Look at the cover together.
- What do you notice? What might the story be about?
- Read the title.
- Does it give any clues? Make predictions together.
- Take a picture walk.
- Flip through the pages and enjoy the illustrations. Talk about what you see.
- Tell the story.
- You can start by narrating what's happening. Use fun voices and sound effects!
- Let your child take a turn.
- Encourage them to tell their own version of the story.
- Ask questions.
- What's their favourite picture? Who's their favourite character? Have they ever felt like the character or been in a similar situation?

### ***Important:***

***Please do not put water bottles in book bags — they can leak and damage our lovely books.***

Thank you for supporting your child's reading journey. If you have any questions, feel free to ask!

*Year R – Beatrix Potter Class*

