

Dear Parents

Re: New Colour-Coded Books: Years 3 & 4

We are writing to let you know that we have purchased lots of new colour-coded books for the children in Years 3 and 4. These books are taken from a range of Reading Schemes (fiction and non-fiction). The books have all been labelled using the following colour-coding (which is a change to our previous colours):

Colour	Reading age range (not chronological age range)
Orange	6.0 - 6.5
Turquoise	6.5 - 7.0
Purple	7.0 - 7.5
Gold	7.5 - 8.0
White	8.0 - 8.5
Lime	8.5 - 9.0
Brown	9.0 - 9.5

Your child's class teacher will have decided, based on class assessment, what colour book your child should start on. If your child has not been given a colour-coded book, it means that he/she has a reading age of more than 9.5 and should continue to read books from our school library and/or from home.

These books have now been put on our library system and are kept in our library. If your child has been put on a colour-coded book, he/she can take out a colour-coded book and another book from the library.

Before moving on to the next colour, your child will need to show that he/she can:

1. Read the book fluently and with good expression, thinking about punctuation and any dialogue.
2. Understand the vocabulary used in the book. A dictionary can be used to check word meanings; however, ideally, word meanings should be discussed in the context of the book.
3. Answer retrieval questions where the answers can be found in the text, showing where the answer is in the text.
4. Answer inference questions related to a character's actions, feelings and motives, justifying these inferences with evidence from the text.
5. Summarise what has been read in his/her own words.
6. Non-fiction only: talk about how the book is organised and the purpose of headings, captions, images, glossary etc

Your child should always be encouraged to refer to the text when answering questions and should not be expected to recall answers from memory. There are lots of example questions in the front section of your child's Planner to aide in supporting your child with their reading comprehension. A really good way to support their fluency/expressive reading is to read a section out loud to your child (so that you are modelling fluent/expressive reading) and then ask your child to read the same section back to you, checking their fluency/expression as they read.

We would really like all children who have colour-coded books to enjoy, and look after, the selection of books available to them. We will expect your children to take good care of these books and have them in school every day. If a book is lost or damaged by your child, we will be asking for a £5 contribution towards its replacement. This is in order to ensure that we maintain the stock of colour-coded books which we now have.

If you have any queries in respect of the colour-coded book your child has been placed on, please contact your child's class teacher to discuss.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Rees & Mr M Giles

English Team