



Silsoe V.C. Lower School, Chestnut Avenue, Silsoe, Bedfordshire, MK45 4GP

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Ref: An invitation to watch me learn in Willow and Hawthorn Classes

1st March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

In September, we decided to invest in and implement a new phonics scheme for the teaching of early reading in our school. This new scheme has impacted the way that both phonics and reading are taught, particularly in Reception and Year 1, and we hope will ensure continued and rapid progression of reading throughout our school.

The scheme we are now using is called **Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised**. This is a very thorough and rigorous programme, which teaches the children the skills they need to not only read, but to read with increased confidence and fluency, helping to develop a lifelong passion and love for reading. As the children's reading skills develop, we also look forward to seeing the positive impact this will have on their writing.

As part of this scheme, daily phonics lessons will continue in Years R and 1, along with catch-up intervention sessions for children who need continued support in the other year groups. The lessons will follow a similar structure to our previous scheme but will progress through the grapheme/phoneme correspondence (GPCs) slightly differently thus enabling children to read more fluently at an increased rate.

We are tremendously pleased with the progress the children have already made in their sound recognition, reading and writing, since starting school. We can already see a huge impact from the new scheme and approach.

Last month we invited parents of Reception children into school. This month we would like to invite parents of children in Year 1 into school to see the phonics teaching and learning for yourselves. We hope that this will help you to better understand the phonics and reading curriculum and will enable you to be more informed when helping your children at home. We would like to invite you to join us at 9.00am on Tuesday 21st March, to watch your child engaging in a phonics lesson in Year 1.

Due to space restrictions in the classrooms we ask that only one adult per family attends on this occasion and unfortunately we are unable to accommodate younger siblings. We would love to see as many of you as possible, however, if you are unable to join us on this occasion please don't worry, there will be more opportunities as the year progresses!

We look forward to welcoming you into school after you have dropped your child at their classroom door. Adults, please come to the main school entrance to be signed in.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Boyle
Headteacher

