



BRANSCOMBE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Branscombe
Seaton
Devon
EX12 3DA

Dear Parents,

3rd September 2008

We are very excited about changes to our home reading scheme. We now have a large quantity of the popular Oxford Reading Tree stories across the full range of our scheme. Early readers start off with stories about Kipper and his family, whilst children reading at the later stages of our scheme will enjoy Magic Key stories. Past experience indicates this is a popular range of home readers with parents too!

We have retained some of the better books from our earlier reading scheme to give children the breadth and variety they need at each level. Now that the fiction content is well catered for, we hope to be able to increase the non-fiction titles in the not-to-distant future.

Many Class 1 children will benefit from learning the core 'sight' vocabulary for each level of the scheme before they bring the books home. This will ensure that they read each new book with a good level of confidence. You will know your child is following this approach to reading if s/he has a string of word cards in her/his reading pack. Please help by asking them to read through the words daily until they know them all. Playing simple games with the words may help motivate your child further. We will be monitoring progress at school and adding words to the string when we feel learning is secure.

Many of the words in each book will not need to be learned as 'sight' words because they are phonically de-codable. We continue to teach the phonic approach to reading with our Letterland phonics scheme and it is important to encourage your child to have a go at these 'sounding out' words as they read. They will become more effective readers if they look closely at phonic words rather than guess.

For your interest we have attached Oxford Reading Tree's guide for parents. Please note that we do not have the 'Take Home Cards' referred to as these ideas for discussion and games are now published on the inside back cover of each book.

Yours sincerely

Katie Gray
Headteacher

Glenn Ford
KS1/ Foundation Teacher

