



# Birdsedge

## First School

Penistone Road,  
Birdsedge,  
Huddersfield  
HD8 8XR  
Tel 01484 605441  
[www.birdsedgefirst.org](http://www.birdsedgefirst.org)  
[office@birdsedgefirst.org](mailto:office@birdsedgefirst.org)  
Head Teacher: Mrs Donna Waddington

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 2020

Dear Families

I wanted to share with you some work we have been doing around reading at Birdsedge this first half term. From being a small (er) child, I have always been an avid reader and loved books. A gift I am forever grateful for my mum giving to me and a gift I have made it my life mission to give to every child I work with. Books can take us on such a magical journey and open doors of opportunities throughout our lives. Because of this, it has been important for me to spend time in these first weeks understanding current reading provisions at Birdsedge First School and developing systems for the best possible outcomes in reading for all children. Here are the key things we have been working on so far:

- Purchasing the PM Benchmarking Kit to provide us with more accurate, individual reading levels for all children
- Starting to assess all children individually in their reading using the benchmarking kit
- Ensuring there is adequate and quality individual reading books, banded in a way that is in-line with the benchmarking assessment tool
- Creating levelled book marks for children to take home to support reading homework
- Developing the structure of how we teach reading discreetly in classes, particularly focusing on developing children's skills in being able to understand what they have read
- Designing a 'book of the month' system for each class and whole school
- Providing a weekly reading assembly, sharing books of the month to aid the development of a love of reading culture

Within this booklet, I have outlined what homework will look for all children across school from after the half term holiday, encompassing this work outlined above. If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs D Waddington

## Homework in Class 1

Every week children will be sent home the following for home learning:

1. **A love of reading book.** A book chosen by children, from their class reading area that they want to share and listen to purely for enjoyment. This may be a book they will need an adult to read to them.
2. **A banded individual reading book.** This is a book for children to read aloud to an adult at home, which is at their level. This doesn't have to be all at once, just a few pages regularly through the week is fine and should be kept and repeated for the week to help aid fluency. Please record in their reading record each time they read to you. Before children are at a level for independent reading, sounds in a sound book will be sent home in place of an individual reading book to practice for short 5 minute sessions.
3. A **book mark** with suggestions and ideas of how to support your children when they are reading their book to you.
4. A list of **spellings** to practice through the week in any way you wish
5. Occasionally, there may be additional, **optional home learning activities** to enhance what is being covered in class you may wish to join in with.

Reading books will be changed every Monday. New Spellings will be given every Friday.

## Homework in Class 2

Every week children will be sent home the following for home learning:

1. **A love of reading book.** A book chosen by children, from their class reading area that they want to share and listen to purely for enjoyment. This may be a book they will need an adult to read to them.
2. **A banded individual reading book.** This is a book for children to read aloud to an adult at home, which is at their level. This doesn't have to be all at once, just a few pages for regular, short 5-10 minute session is fine. The book should be kept and repeated for the week to help aid fluency. Please record in their reading record each time they read to you.
3. A **book mark** with suggestions and ideas of how to support your children when they are reading their book to you.
4. A list of **spellings** to practice in any way you wish
5. Children have a log in for **TT Rockstars** and can use this regularly at home for times table practice.
6. Occasionally, there may be additional, **optional home learning activities** to enhance what is being covered in class you may wish to join in with.

Reading books will be changed every Monday. New Spellings will be given every Friday.

## Homework in Class 3

Every week children will be sent home the following for home learning:

1. **A love of reading book.** A book chosen by children, from their class reading area that they want to share and listen to purely for enjoyment. This might be a book children want to look at in their own time or may be one they need an adult to read to them.
2. **A banded individual reading book.** This is a book for children to read aloud to an adult at home which is at their level. This doesn't have to be all at once, just a few pages for regular, short 10 minute sessions is fine. This book should be kept and repeated for the week to help aid fluency. Children who have completed the book banded scheme will choose a 'free reader' book that they may choose to read to themselves, rather than aloud. Please record in their reading record each time your child reads at home.
3. A **book mark** with suggestions and ideas of how to support your children when they are reading their book to you.
4. A list of **spellings** to practice in any way you wish
5. A log in for **TT Rockstars** that can be used as children wish for times table practice.
6. **Maths Whizz** cards to practice mental maths strategies
7. Occasionally, there may be additional, **optional home learning activities** to enhance what is being covered in class you may wish to join in with.

In class 3 children are encouraged to use their planners to organise their homework to help become more ready for systems of homework in Middle School. Reading books will be changed every Monday and new spellings given every Thursday.

## Homework for Children who have an additional need

Every Week children will be sent home the following for home learning:

1. **A love of reading book.** A book chosen by children, from their class reading area that they want to share and listen to purely for enjoyment. This may be a book they will need an adult to read to them.
2. **A banded individual reading book.** This is a book for children to read aloud to an adult at home which is at their level. This doesn't have to be all at once, just a few pages for a short 5-10 minute session is fine and should be kept and repeated for the week to help aid fluency. Please record in their reading record each time they read to you. Before children are at a level for independent reading, flashcards of sounds or words will be sent home for children to practice.
3. A **book mark** with suggestions and ideas of how to support your children when they are reading to you.
4. **Personalised ongoing activities** from their Individual Education Plan, to do at home to support work towards their targets.

