Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the Little Wandle information session. For those unable to attend, I would like to reiterate the points I highlighted at the meeting.

* Please try to read with your child a little every day. 5/10 minutes, daily, will have a huge impact on your child’s ability to become fluent readers.
* Please continue to write in the school diary every time you have read your child’s book with them. We will comment in there when we have read with them 1:1 not including their reading session.
* The Little Wandle lessons have a structured approach to ensure the children make great progress, which we are seeing daily. The lessons work on recapping their previous knowledge and adding to it every lesson. They have elements of spelling every session and there are also writing sentence focuses.
* The Little Wandle scheme promotes group reading sessions for children. In these group practise sessions, your child now gets to read the **whole** book each time we read with them three times a week. They are also getting individual one-to-one time where we go round and listen to and help them within the group. We have different focuses for the lessons, for example, decoding, working on expression and intonation and working on comprehension. The children develop fluency throughout the week and this is the aim of the scheme. Repeated practise daily is crucial for this progress to take place so the children eventually read words by sight.
* The group practise session varies in size and it may be as little as a group of 3, maximum of 6.
* When reading at home with your child, please go to the inside front cover and get your child to:
* Recap the sounds that they will be practising in that particular book.
* Decode the words in the first box on the right hand side.
* Read the tricky words underneath (learning them by sight as they cannot be decoded).
* Decode the words in the vocabulary box and talk about their meaning. It is beneficial to show the children the visual representation of the word shown in the book and provide its context.
* The scheme places a huge emphasis on high quality vocabulary and sentences in taught lessons such as, ‘The sheep march up the hill and into the sunset. / We tell the farmer that his goat has got into the shower.’ Vocabulary is being introduced and developed daily, for example, vanish, mammoth and poison have all been introduced recently.
* It is important that new vocabulary is supported by visuals and this is done fantastically in the books. When we come across new vocabulary elsewhere or in the high quality books, we search the Internet to give the children context and a visual representation to aid their understanding. Please continue to do this with the high quality texts sent home as they will be coming across new vocabulary all the time.
* Use the home phonics sheets we send home weekly with your child to recap their learning and for them to share what sounds and tricky words we have been looking at that week.

Please **do not** write in the books as we had books returned with underlines for the digraphs and trigraphs. The books are new and expensive.

We have seen tremendous improvements and progress with the children’s Phonics with the Little Wandle scheme and with your support this will be continued as your child goes through their KS1 phonics journey.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Gooch and Miss Scarlett