



HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Learning and Achieving Together

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Thursday 11th September 2025

Home reading books in Reception

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very successful start in Reception and the children have really impressed us with how well they have all settled. They have adapted to the new routines and transitions extremely well, and we are very proud of them.

Developing a love of reading for your child is so important to support them on their reading journey. To begin their reading journey in Reception, your child will bring home a 'sharing' book every Friday, and their first book will go home tomorrow, **Friday 12th September**.

They will also be bringing home a reading diary. This is for you at home and staff in school to keep a record of when your child reads with you. You are able to add the title of the book, the date they have read and your signature. We very much welcome your comments about how your child has read too! We ask that you aim to read at least 5 times a week with your child at home and sign their reading diary each time.

What is a 'Sharing' book?

We refer to home reading books as 'Sharing' books. This book is for you or a member of your family to read to your child and allow them to enjoy listening to a story being read. The purpose of the 'sharing' book is to provide your child a book they can enjoy sharing with you at home.

Your child can change their sharing book in school, every Friday. Your child can enjoy reading and sharing a range of books with you, including picture books, magazines and comics, and books from the library.

There will be an opportunity for parents and carers to come into school in the second half of the Autumn term for a 'shared learning' session. You will be able to see how your child is taught to read in the classroom, and there will be an information session for you to find out how we teach phonics and some advice and top tips on how best to support reading with your child at home.

Phonics teaching - Read Write Inc

The children have started their phonics lessons in school this week. These lessons are taught using the **Read Write Inc** phonics programme, which is used in many schools in the UK. It is a highly effective programme which teaches children how to recognise the sounds of each letter of the alphabet and also the sounds that different combinations of these letters make. They also learn how to 'blend' these sounds together to start reading words. This learning will continue throughout Reception and Year 1. Further information for parents and carers about this will be communicated in the shared learning sessions later this term.

The children will start to bring home an additional reading book each week, linked to their phonics learning in school, which will allow the children to practise reading words containing the sounds they will be learning. Information about this will be shared with you in the second half of the Autumn term, once children have been taught the initial set of sounds in class.

Lost Books

If books are lost, please inform your child's class teacher. **We will then ask that you pay £6.50 for the cost of replacing the book**, as soon as possible. This can be done via the Parent-Pay website. This is to ensure we always have enough books to give to every child, to support the development of their reading.

Thank you in advance for your support; please do ask your child's class teacher if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Skelly".

Sabrina Kelly
Co-Principal

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Saidiya".

Samina Saidiya
Co-Principal