



**Over St. John's CE Primary School**

**'Let your light shine before others.' Matthew 5:16**

## **Parent Guide to Phonetically Decodable Reading Books**

**Year 1**



Phonically decodable reading books are books that contain decodable words, meaning that the children can read them using just their phonic skills and knowledge, once they have been taught the phonics at that level. These decodable books consolidate the sounds taught within school during the week.

Your child will be sent home with two phonically decodable books per week (books will be given out and changed every Monday). It is crucial that your child spends time exploring and reading one of these books every night to build fluency and consolidate learning from throughout the week. Re-reading a text is also important to help build fluency and confidence. Even if the book seems too easy, that is okay. This will be helping your child to develop within their reading.

The reading book sent home will support the phonics teaching your child has worked on in school.

### **How can you support your child?**

Below are some suggestions on how you can support your child when exploring and reading their phonetically decodable books over the week:

Day 1 Book 1	Walk through the book together, discussing the front cover and pictures. Ask your child questions about the book: What do they think the book might be about? What do they think is happening on each page? Ask your child to read the sounds and key words chart on the first two pages.
Day 2 Book 1	Ask your child to read the first half of the book. Encourage your child to segment (sound out) the words and blend them back together, e.g. "S-i-d, Sid." Some words will be repeated throughout the book and therefore your child may begin to recognise these words without the need to sound them out. Encourage your child to read those familiar words quickly once they have built up their confidence without relying on segmenting and blending. Once they have read those pages, ask your child to retell what they have just read.
Day 3 Book 1	Ask your child to read the second half of the book. Once they have read it, have a discussion about the questions on the final page.
Day 4 Book 2	Walk through the book together, discussing the front cover and pictures. Ask your child questions about the book: What do they think the book might be about? What do they think is happening on each page? Ask your child to read the sounds and key words chart on the first two pages.

Day 5 Book 2	Ask your child to read the first half of the book. Encourage your child to segment (sound out) the words and blend them back together, e.g. "S-i-d, Sid." Some words will be repeated throughout the book and therefore your child may begin to recognise these words without the need to sound them out. Encourage your child to read those familiar words quickly once they have built up their confidence without relying on segmenting and blending. Once they have read those pages, ask your child to retell what they have just read.
Day 6 Book 2	Ask your child to read the second half of the book. Once they have read it, have a discussion about the questions on the final page.
Day 7	Your child will now have read both books. Why not pick their favourite to read again? Maybe you could ask questions about what they have read. Talk about the characters etc.