



Willow Lane
Community Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Bug Club home reading

Exciting news!! We are launching a fantastic development in reading at home in Key Stage 2. For the last term, as part of our daily reading sessions, the children at Willow Lane have been using a resource called Bug Club. This is something they are enjoying greatly.

What is Bug Club?

This online reading scheme provides pupils with a new range of books that are appropriately challenging for them. They can access books on a phone, iPad, tablet or computer.



Why Bug Club?

In Key Stage one, all of the children read schemed books e.g. Oxford Reading Tree that are pitched at their level; however, we do not currently have a scheme in KS2. Schemed books are brilliant for your child's progress in reading. They ensure language progression, have new vocabulary, have exciting and stimulating plots as well as there being a range of fiction and non-fiction so all children can access something new and interesting. This online scheme allows us to get books into the home quickly and means that we can monitor the children's progress through the scheme in KS2 also.

How do we know the children are reading and understand what they are reading?

One of the best things about Bug Club is that it has a real focus on developing your child's comprehension skills. Regularly, as your child reads the books, opportunities arise for them to answer a range of questions about what they have read. There is a green bug icon that they will click on the pages to access them. These questions progress literal understanding, inferential understanding and clarify new vocabulary. This will have a very positive impact on their learning and progress throughout school.

It is important that when the children access Bug Club at home, that they read the books slowly, thoughtfully and carefully to ensure they answer the questions correctly. Teachers can monitor how well they are answering the questions and how good their accuracy is. If they are struggling with the comprehension questions, they will not be ready to move to the next stage / band if they do not understand what they have read. Teachers can also see how often a child accesses the app to read. It would be fantastic if you could also read the books on Bug Club with your child as often as possible.



What about the love of actual books?

As well as having a schemed book at Willow Lane we teach to the heart, so we understand that it is fundamental for the children to read for pleasure and select books that match their interests and passions. Because of this, we encourage children in Key Stage 2 to read a book of their choice from school alongside their Bug Club to continue to foster their love of reading.

How can I support my child?

Whenever your child reads at home- their book on Bug Club or the book of their choice- it is still essential that they or you continue to record the date, what they have read and how they have read in their school reading record. Both reading on Bug Club and reading their chosen book count as one of their reads for the week. Ideally, children will read a minimum of three times a week at home and it would be great if they read every day!

How do I know what to do?

If you would like to know more about how to use Bug Club, there is an instructional video on the website for you to access if needed.

On Monday 14th March, all classes in Key Stage 2 will bring home their login details. This will be stuck into the cover of their home reading record. As soon as you have your child's logins, you can begin. You can follow this link or Google search Active Learn or Bug Club.

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

For Key Stage one pupils, including those who are on the 'free reader' books, we do not expect children to read Bug Club books at home at this stage. We are using it daily in school so that when they reach Key Stage 2 they know how to use it and can then begin to access it at home. At this stage, we feel it is very important for them to have real books that they can enjoy with you at home.

All KS2 children have been using Bug Club for a few weeks in school so should be confident but if you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me.

What if I don't have a device to access Bug Club?

You can access Bug Club online on any device. If you need help with digital devices to access Bug Club please contact the school office.

Let's get reading!!

Many thanks for your continued support,

S. Frankland (English Subject Lead)

