



## Little Learners Newsletter 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017



### Learning to read with Read, Write, Inc

In response to many families who have recently asked for more information about helping their child to develop a love of books; we hope these frequently asked questions from Ruth Miskin are helpful. The questions are aimed at families with children throughout the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and please remember that children remain in the EYFS until the end of their Reception year.

#### **When should I start reading with my child?**

It's never too early and you can start reading to your baby! Every child is different but the golden rule is that you should start as early as possible and enjoy reading together!

#### **When and how should I ask my child to try to read with me?**

Be guided by your child but don't force the pace too early and run the risk of switching your child off! If your child is asking what words say, then he or she is probably ready to begin. Start with a familiar story that features lots of repetition so you can join in together!

#### **How often should I hear my child read?**

Every day if at all possible, but little and often is the golden rule. And reading to your child is as important.

#### **How do I teach the alphabet? Is it by sound or letter?**

If you want your child to know the alphabet then it will be by letter name. Many children learn the Alphabet song at nursery or playgroups. For [phonics skills](#) your child will need to know the sounds each letter or group of letters makes.

#### **Does it matter if my child uses the picture to help guess what the sentence/word is?**

It depends on what you are reading and why! If you are reading a [decodable book](#) which is to encourage your child to practise early reading skills, then it is important to read the words not the pictures! In [picture books](#), the pictures really add to the meaning.

**What should I do if my child keeps wanting the same book again and again?**  
Don't discourage your child! It's good to have favourite books, and reading familiar stories gives confidence.

#### **Shouldn't I leave my child's reading to the school in case I make mistakes?**

The teacher at school will be counting on your support and will enjoy working with you. Ask them how reading is taught and how you can help. For further information, look at [Top tips](#) and [At school](#) sections of this site.

#### **I don't read much myself so will that affect my child's reading?**

If your child sees you reading it will encourage him or her to read too. You don't have to start reading blockbuster novels - any reading material such as magazines, websites, posters, newspapers (the list is endless!) all count as reading. Sharing a [picture book](#) is one of the most relaxing things to do with your child at the end of the day.

If you would like to find out more please follow this link. There are some videos which demonstrate how to pronounce 'pure sounds' which we think parents might find really helpful.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading-owl/find-a-book/read-write-inc-phonics>

### Sainsbury's Kids Vouchers

Right now we're in the voucher collection phase of Active Kids 2017. From 25 January to 2 May 2017, parents and the community can collect vouchers when shopping at Sainsbury's stores and petrol stations (where you can collect double), and then drop them into one of the collection boxes in the foyers at both of our campuses. Once all vouchers have been collected, we can exchange them for brand new sports and cooking equipment.



Active Kids

### Red Nose Day

Red noses and accessories are now available at Sainsbury's and Oxfam; we welcome children to wear them to Nursery on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We will not be asking for any donations for the day, but will be teaching the children about the importance of helping others through activities and stories.



Go to <http://www.rednoseday.com/kids/comic-adventure> for a fun and interactive nose game for your Little Learner.

### Happy St Patricks Day!

