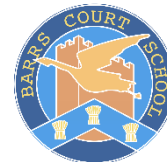


Parent guide



We hope having everything on one sheet of paper will be helpful!

Planners

Planners are not only for recording reading at home (see below), they are also a great way of communication between home and school. We check the planners every day so please put any messages you want to get to us in the planner. Anything more private or urgent, please contact the school office and they will pass messages onto us.

PE

Our PE day is on a Friday. Children need to come into school dressed in their PE kit. Please check the weather forecast and dress accordingly as they will be playing and learning outside during the day in their PE kit. We will start PE on **Friday 7th October**.

Enquiries

Please check our school website for what your child will be learning each term. Each enquiry is a question which we aim to be able to answer confidently by the end of the enquiry. We will invite parents into school throughout the year to share in our learning. 😊

Evidence Me

Hopefully you will have received your invitation to login to Evidence me. We will send you observations periodically – the app is the easiest way to access them. The new EYFS framework does not encourage staff to record copious amounts of observations as the ipad is a barrier to being with the children and talking to them. The observations you receive will be special moments of learning – a first time of doing something or mastering something they have been working on for a little while.

Reading books coming home

The children will soon be bringing home a **sharing book** (for you to read to them and enjoy book talk together) and a levelled **reading book** which they need to read to you. Their reading book will be matched to their phonic knowledge. Initially the reading book may be wordless to give the children the opportunity to tell the story through the pictures. These books are also great for playing I spy games to hear the initial sounds in words (using the illustrations) and blending games, eg '*I can see the c-a-t, show me the c-a-t*'.

Once the children begin reading practise groups in school, they will read the same book 3 times (with a different focus each day) with the class teacher then they will bring that same book home at the end of the week. Books need to be **returned on a Thursday** and new books will be given out on a Friday. It is crucial books are returned as someone else will need to take it home the following day. We recommend keeping reading books in book bags between reads so they don't accidentally get left at home.

Reading at home – FIVERS

We expect our children to read at home 5 times each week. Please write down all reading in the school planner. The reads will be counted up by the class teacher on a Monday. Children achieve a fiver when 5 reads are recorded Monday to Monday. At the moment the 5 reads can be a 'sharing' book but once the children bring home a levelled reading book, they need to read that one 5 times. Please continue to read to your child as well as them reading to you 😊

Sound bags

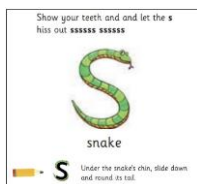
Once the children have learnt s/a/t/p/i/n they will bring home a fabric bag containing flashcards for them to practise to ensure they retain the sounds taught. We recommend making flashcard recall a part of the reading routine – think of them as a little warm up before reading the levelled reading book. For each letter there will be two flashcards:

1. The grapheme (letter) – when the children see this they should say the **phoneme** (the sound the grapheme makes) and not the letter name.



“ssssssssssss”

2. The mnemonic – when the children see this they should say what the **picture** is. The mnemonic helps them to remember the phoneme as it is the initial sound of the word. This also reminds them how to form the grapheme when writing it.



“snake”

Please keep the fabric sound bag in your child's book bag whenever you are not using it so we can access them in school as well. As the children progress through Little Wandle they will bring home tricky words as well – these are words that cannot be decoded.

Toy in a bag – writing homework

Once the children have learned a substantial number of phonic sounds, they will bring home a 'toy in a bag' each week and a 'toy in a bag' exercise book. Each week they need to draw and write about the toy in their book. Guidance/support will be in the front of the exercise book. More info will follow when the bags/books get sent home.

Useful websites



GB



Letters and Sounds for Home and School
63.4K subscribers

There is a video for every Little Wandle phonics lesson taught in reception. This is a great place to go to catch up on any lost learning due to absence.