



Please do not hesitate to speak with your class teacher if you have any questions.

Any help from parents listening to children in school is greatly valued and appreciated.

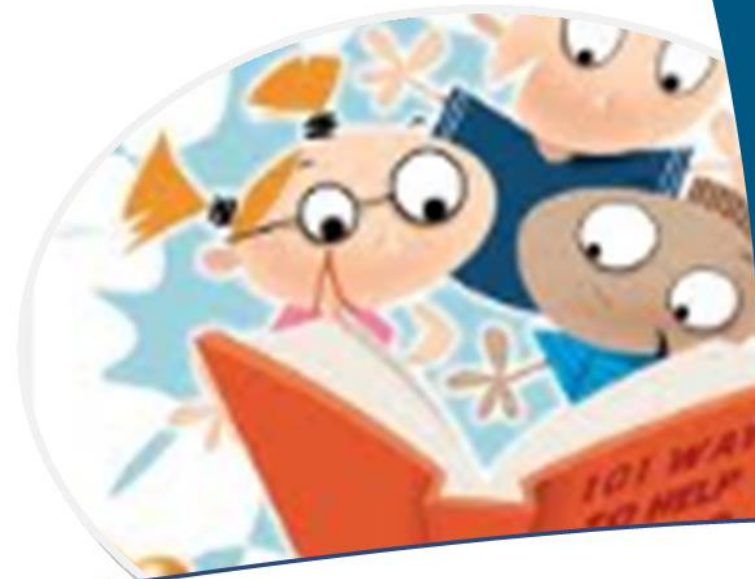


*"There is no skill on earth that children want to acquire more than reading."*

-- Dr. Marion Blank, from her book, *The Reading Remedy*

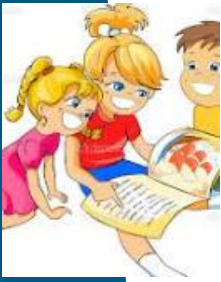


Saint John the Baptist Primary  
School  
A Caring Christian Community providing  
full potential for all



Helping Your Child  
with their reading  
and understanding  
of text  
in Year One





Please encourage your child to read at home on a daily basis. Let them listen to you read and use amazing expression and also let them read out loud to you.

Reading a mixture of fiction, non-fiction and poetry will support your child's learning at school.

**Summarise** what the story was about (The **plot** of the story).

**Describe** what a character is feeling/thinking about at a certain part of the story. How do you know that the child is angry if the word 'angry' isn't in the text?

**Jot** down some words that they find hard to read or don't understand on post-it notes or make flashcards and stick to the fridge door or in their bedroom.

**Ask** about the **setting** of the story. What places are mentioned or visited? Discuss how they are described. Collect amazing adjectives/ similes.

**Discuss** what they have learnt in a non-fiction book? Can you name all of the features? Heading, sub-headings etc.

**Think** of an alternative ending for the story. What could have happened instead?

**Describe** the main characters in the text. Think about appearance (what they look like in pictures) and personality (how they act in the story. Are they funny, friendly?)

## Hints and tips to help your child with their reading and writing

**Play word games.** Have your child sound out the word as you change it from *mat* to *fat* to *sat*; from *sat* to *sag* to *sap*; and from *sap* to *sip* etc.

**Don't leave home without it.** Bring along a book, magazine or reading on a tablet/ iPad any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's etc. Always try to fit in reading!

**Gently correct your young reader.** When your child makes a mistake, gently point out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Many beginning readers will guess wildly at a word based on its first letter.

**Talk, talk, talk!** Talk with your child every day about school and things going on around the house. Use a range of grown up vocabulary to help children widen the range of words that they understand when they are reading.

**Learn the secret to tricky words.** Practice reading and spelling the common exception words and Year 3/4 words.

**Write, write, write!**

Ask your child to help you to write out the grocery list, a thank you note to their Grandma, or maybe keep a journal of special things that happen at home. When writing, encourage your child to say tricky words out loud, split them into sections to support spelling.