Dear parent,

The following detail explains our phonics programme for children and your essential role in supporting us to achieve the best progress for your child.

How will my child learn to read and write?

At Swansfield, children learn to read and write through daily teaching of the Read Write Inc. Phonics literacy programme. Their journey begins in Reception and continues through KS1 and until children have worked their way through the whole reading scheme.

Childrens' reading ability is rigorously tracked and assessed each half term. They make progress through targeted grouping, when they are secure and fluent in each set of sounds and corresponding words. Reading books in class and those sent home each week, are matched to the sounds children can already read. This is to build confidence and to ensure success for all. This may mean that your child **repeats** some books until their fluency has sufficiently developed to ensure they understand what they are reading. *For further explanation please see the separate document on the importance of repetition.*

Children begin to read **letters** by their 'sounds.' They blend these sounds into **words**. They read the words in a **story**.

Sounds are taught in the following order:

Set 1 Speed Sounds (these are sounds written with one letter):

m a s d t l n p g o c k u b f e l h r j v and sounds written with two letters (your child will call these 'special friends'): **sh th ch qu ng nk ck**

They learn to read words containing these sounds, by sound-blending, e.g. m-a-t mat, c-a-t cat, g-o-t got, f-i-sh fish, s-p-o-t spot, b-e-s-t best, s-p-l-a-sh splash.

They read Blending Books and then progress to Red, Green, and Purple Storybooks.

Then they learn to read ***Set 2 Speed Sounds*****: ay ee igh ow oo oo ar or air ir ou oy.**

They read words containing these sounds and progress to Pink, Orange and Yellow Storybooks.

Next they will learn to read ***Set 3 Speed Sounds*****: ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur er ow ai oa ew ire ear ure.**

They read words containing these sounds, ultimately progressing to Blue and Grey Storybooks.

Partnership with families: How can I help my child learn to read and write?

Your support is key to their progress!

You can help by listening to them read their weekly reading book several times, building their recognition and fluency of the sounds and words.

Your child will also be sent home with weekly words matched to those they are blending and reading in phonics sessions, as well as some tricky (red) words that cannot be sounded out.

Please support your child to practise reading and spelling these words four times a week, signing their challenge card. Stamps will be given each week and a completed challenge card earns a reward at the end of each half term!

****Please see the links on our school website for further RWInc resources*.**