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Chief Executive Headteacher
Acting Head of School
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Mrs. N Bull
Ms R Davies
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Monday 31st January 2022

Dear Families,

Now that we have had a slightly more consistent period of time in school, I have been able to monitor the teaching of phonics and analyse the assessments of the practise phonics tests. The effective teaching of reading, as evidenced at the BeDifferent Federation, requires not just a systematic synthetic phonics programme but its consistent implementation in every class.

A systematic phonics programme includes sufficient 'decodable' books or texts so that children can practise at school and at home, their increasing knowledge of grapheme phoneme correspondence and their blending skills in meaningful contexts. 'Decodable' books and other texts make children feel successful from the very beginning. This means that a child does not encounter words that include phonemes that they have not been taught.

To support this knowledge that we have about the children's progress in reading, I have spent some time reviewing, reorganising and purchasing books that the children should be enjoying for pleasure and those that are specifically matched to the child's phonic ability.

This will mean that your child will bring home two books on a weekly basis so that your child benefits from reading at their phonic level as well as reading a book for pleasure.

What is essential is the fact that your child will practise their reading with 'decodable' books or texts. Your child will then speed up the time that they need to gain sufficient accuracy to read a wide range of children's literature.

I hope that you will enjoy reading some new texts with your child,

Kind regards,

Mrs Bull
Chief Executive Headteacher

