This week we have sent a colour banded book home with your child.

The children have all read with an adult and put onto a coloured book band. The sequence of the book bands is on this letter.

Children all learn to read at different rates so please do not compare the level your child is with another child in the class. Our main aim is for children to develop a life, long love of reading which begins in reception.

Throughout the week children will have a variety of opportunities to practise their reading, such as in our daily phonics lessons, literacy lessons and topic lessons. We also have a guided reading lesson which takes place daily, where you child will take part in the following activities; reading to an adult, reading a different text in a guided group, reading to their friends and completing comprehension activities about a book. These sessions are very much about developing understanding and broadening the children's exposure to different texts. Across the week we will hear your child read at least two times.

Children will progress through the book bands by being assessed by a teacher during the day. We will check the children's reading fluency and their comprehension by listening to them and asking them questions. Before progressing onto the next book band the children will need to read a variety of genres, fiction and non-fiction books in order to develop their fluency and vocabulary.

Book Band Levels

Pink

Red

Yellow

Light Blue

Green

Orange

Turquoise

Purple

Gold

White

Lime

Copper

Ruby

Topaz

Free Reader

Last week we sent home two books and a blue reading diary in a plastic wallet. Please bring this wallet into school every day so that we can hear your child read if it is their turn. Once your child has read the two books in the wallet an adult will support your child in changing their book. The books in Otters vary in size, so sometimes the book may be finished in an evening or sometimes the book may be finished in a week. Again it is not about how quickly the children finish the book but more about the quality of their reading and their understanding.

It is really important to read with your child regularly at home. Reading underpins a lot of the learning that happens in Otters Class. Once you have read with your child, please record a comment about how they read in their blue reading diary. You could also write down any questions that you asked them or words that they needed help with. Some good comprehension questions to ask your children are:

What do you think might happen next?

Where do you think this story is happening?

Who is the main character?

Can you tell me what has just happened?

What do you think will happen in the end?

I hope this clears up some of your questions, please do not hesitate to email any other questions to Mrs Yates.

Kind Regards

Laura Morris