



Tuesday 30th August 2011

Dear Parents,

Next week, each pupil in P2 - P7 will be sent home with a new Reading Record Log. The rationale behind this is that once pupils have read a book at home, not including their school texts, they will fill out the appropriate sections. This way the pupils are being encouraged to think about and review what they have read in a wider context. There is a parental section at the back so that you may jot down comments relating to the books; this may be things that you liked or a positive comment from your child. Teachers will then direct follow up discussion with pupils at regular intervals and we hope that it will also encourage quality discourse amongst pupils.

The copy is in black and white, but I do have a colour copy that I can e-mail you if you would rather print this out at home.

I am also in the process of updating our Parental Reading Handbook, and it is with this that I ask for your assistance; I would like to add a section at the back stating recommended timings for reading with your child each night. To help me with this I would be very grateful if parents could e-mail me at a.mathewson@tga.org.uk and tell me (a) the prep stage that your child is at and (b) how much time you spend reading to and listening to your child read each night.

The book will also consist of recommended reading lists for pupils in P2 - P7, as well as a variety of questioning techniques and activities that you can do at home in order to enhance the reading experience for your child; obviously these approaches will be reflected in our teaching at school.

I have compiled a list of books that will be included in each year group's list but would also welcome any suggestions that you may have to enable me to add to these. If possible, could you also indicate the level of challenge that this gave your child; the best way to feedback to me is via the e-mail address stated above.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance; I hope you share my optimism that this approach will continue to help us develop a strong partnership between home and school, in order to help develop pupils' reading abilities.

Yours sincerely,

Sandy Mathewson
Assistant Head (Learning and Teaching)