



# SUTTON ST JAMES C.P. SCHOOL

Bells Drove, Sutton St James, Spalding, Lincs. PE12 0JG

Email: [enquiries@sutton-st-james.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sutton-st-james.lincs.sch.uk)

[www.sutton-st-james.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.sutton-st-james.lincs.sch.uk)

Tel: 01945 440209

Headteacher: Miss Claire Willows



5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

## For the Love of Reading!

At Sutton St James School, we believe it is essential to nurture a love of reading in all children as being able to read and understand is the key to virtually everything in education across the whole curriculum and in life! We want all of our children to pick up a book and read because they want to immerse themselves into another time or place or because they are keen to learn more about something, rather than because they are told to.

This year, we will continue with a refined Reading Reward system where there are 3 levels of reward for children who read at home. The system will be based on children reading at home for 5 – 10 minutes, 5 times a week across the term and the rewards earned are explained in the following table.

| <u>Percentage of Reads completed<br/>(based on 5 reads per week)</u>                     | <u>Reward achieved</u>  |
|--|---|
| 75% of possible reads for the term   | • Certificate presented in Celebration Assembly   |
| 85% of possible reads for the term   | • Class Reward Incentive (choice of options e.g. ICT, Sport, Film, Free Time etc)   |
| 100% of possible reads for the term<br>(or more if reading any more than 5 times a week) | • Class Reward Incentive (choice of options e.g. ICT, Sport, Film, Free Time etc)<br>• An edible treat in class during the final week of term |

A chart will be used in each classroom to record the number of reads recorded and signed by somebody at home in each child's home reading record.

During Term 1 (up until October holiday, allowing 3 days for children to settle back into the school after the Summer and finishing on the final Tuesday of term), there are a possible 27 reading opportunities. This means to get 100% your child will need to read 27 times, for 85% read 23 times and for 75% read 19 times. This will vary slightly each term depending on how long the term is.

When reading with your child, have fun and make the experience enjoyable. The 5 – 10 minutes reading time can include 'book talk', not just your child reading the story or for you sharing a story with younger children. Book talk can be based on the reading domains used in school. Here are some useful prompts that we use in school to base your questions and talk around.

|                       | <b>Wrens, Robins &amp; Swallows</b>   | <b>Owls, Swans and Herons</b>  |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| <b>Reading Domain</b> | <b>What to ask...</b>   | <b>What to ask...</b>  |
| <b>Vocabulary</b>     | <p>What does the word ..... mean in this sentence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find and copy a word which means .....</li> <li>• What does this word or phrase tell you about .....</li> <li>• Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why?</li> <li>• Which of the words best describes the character/setting/mood etc?</li> <li>• Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this?</li> <li>• Why do you think ..... is repeated in this section?</li> </ul> | <p>What do the words ..... and ..... suggest about the character, setting and mood?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which word tells you that....?</li> <li>• Which keyword tells you about the character/ setting/mood?</li> <li>• Find one word in the text which means.....</li> <li>• Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to.....</li> <li>• Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that.....</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Inference</b>      | <p>Why was..... feeling.....?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why did ..... happen?</li> <li>• Why did ..... say .....</li> <li>• Can you explain why.....?</li> <li>• What do you think the author intended when they said.....?</li> <li>• How does ..... make you feel?</li> </ul>  | <p>Find and copy a group of words which show that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?</li> <li>• How do the descriptions of ..... show that they are .....</li> <li>• How can you tell that.....</li> <li>• What impression of ..... do you get from these paragraphs?</li> <li>• What voice might these characters use?</li> <li>• What was .... thinking when.....</li> <li>• Who is telling the story?</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Predict</b>        | <p>Look at the book cover/blurb – what do you think this book will be about?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this?</li> <li>• How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next?</li> <li>• What is happening? What do you think happened before? What do you think will happen after?</li> <li>• What do you think the last paragraph suggests will happen next?</li> </ul>   | <p>From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?</li> <li>• What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?</li> <li>• Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?</li> <li>• Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Explain</b>        | <p>Who is your favourite character? Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do you think all the main characters are girls in this book?</li> <li>• Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not?</li> <li>• Is there anything you would change about this story?</li> <li>• Do you like this text? What do you like about it?</li> </ul>  | <p>Why is the text arranged in this way?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What structures has the author used?</li> <li>• What is the purpose of this text feature?</li> <li>• Is the use of ..... effective?</li> <li>• The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this.</li> <li>• What is the author's point of view?</li> <li>• What affect does ..... have on the audience?</li> <li>• How does the author engage the reader here?</li> <li>• Which words and phrases did ..... effectively?</li> <li>• Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?</li> <li>• How are these sections linked?</li> </ul> |
| <b>Retrieve</b>       | What kind of text is this?  | How would you describe this story/text?  |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who did.....?</li> <li>• Where did.....?</li> <li>• When did.....?</li> <li>• What happened when.....?</li> <li>• Why did ..... happen?</li> <li>• How did .....?</li> <li>• How many.....?</li> <li>• What happened to.....?</li> </ul>   | <p>What genre is it? How do you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did...?</li> <li>• How often...?</li> <li>• Who had...? Who is...? Who did...?</li> <li>• What happened to...?</li> <li>• What does.... do?</li> <li>• How ..... is .....?</li> <li>• What can you learn from ..... from this section?</li> <li>• Give one example of.....</li> <li>• The story is told from whose perspective?</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Sequence (KS1)</b><br/><b>Summarise (KS2)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?</li> <li>• What happened after .....?</li> <li>• What was the first thing that happened in the story?</li> <li>• Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/ middle/end of the story?</li> <li>• In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happened after .....?</li> <li>• What was the first thing that happened in the story?</li> <li>• Can you summarise in a sentence the opening /middle/end of the story?</li> <li>• In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?</li> <li>• Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?</li> </ul>   |

In school, each class will be sharing an age-appropriate class book each term. The class teacher and other adults in school will read to the children on a daily basis, injecting excitement and expression into the experience to hook the children into reading. Please talk to your child about which book they are reading in school.

Please remember that we have the book swap bookshelf in the conservatory for adults to use with a good range of different genres on it. Let's get reading! If your children see you reading and enjoying it, they are more likely to enjoy it themselves!

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions about reading at home or in school, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher or with Mr Richardson (English Lead in school).

Yours sincerely,

*C. Willows*

Miss Claire Willows  
Headteacher

*A book is a gift you can open again and again.*  
—Garrison Keillor

