Shaftesbury Abbey Primary

Church of England Voluntary Aided School

St James’ Street, Shaftesbury, Dorset. SP7 8HQ, Phone/Fax 01747 852620

Email: [office@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk), Web: [www.shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk)

**Headteacher Mr. P. Meacham, BSc(Hons), PGCE, NPQH**

September 2016

Introducing your Child’s Reading Record

Reading is a fundamental skill that ensures children have a firm basis for learning across the curriculum and throughout life. At the Abbey Primary School, we want children at the beginning of school to develop a love for and interest in books in addition to the skills and strategies for reading.

Each week your child will select a book to borrow from our class library. This is **not** intended to be a “reading book”, but instead an opportunity to spend time with an adult at home sharing a wide variety of books, listening to and talking about them. At the Abbey Primary School, we believe this will help you and your child develop a routine which will become the basis for their progress in reading once they start bringing a reading book home. We would like to learn about your child’s interests, and the ideas they have from the books you share with them, so we would ask you to make a short comment in this reading record book for us. We will also comment when we share books individually or as part of a small group.

Please see the attached guidance taken from BookTrust’s website and please do come and talk to us if you have any questions.

Mrs Sanderson and Miss Dymock

Reception Class Teachers

**How to read with your child**

*Research proves that children who enjoy reading do better at school in all subjects.*

Reading together increases literacy skills and does so much more - it helps to build a strong and loving relationship between you. And it's never too early to start reading with your child.

**Set aside some time.** *Find somewhere quiet without any distractions - turn off the TV/radio/computer.*

**Ask your child to choose a book.** *Sharing books they have chosen shows you care what they think and that their opinion matters. This means they are more likely to engage with the book.*

**Sit close together.** *Encourage your child to hold the book themselves and/or turn the pages.*

**Point to the pictures.** *If there are illustrations, relate them to something your child knows. Ask them to describe the characters or situation or what will happen next. Encourage them to tell you the story by looking at the pictures.*

**Encourage your child to talk about the book.** *Talking about the characters and their dilemmas helps children understand relationships and is an excellent way for you to get to know each other or discuss difficult issues. Give your child plenty of time to respond. Ask them what will happen next, how a character might be feeling, or how the book makes them feel.*

***And lastly, above all - make it fun!***

*From: http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/view/25659*