7th September 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer

I am writing to advise all parents with children currently in Cygnets, Goslings and Ducking’s classes of some useful information regarding our Phonics reading scheme here at Tennyson Road Primary School (see overleaf.)

To further support our parents with their children’s learning journey, I have planned a Phonics based session for parents to attend. Previous feedback indicated that this session offered such a valuable insight into the use of Phonics, helping parents to further develop their child’s understanding of sounds.

**We invite you to attend this workshop, if you are available, on Wednesday 19th September from 6pm – 7pm.**

This will be based on our North Campus on Surrey Street. All parents should make their way to the reception area where you will be greeted by the Foundation team.

We will be selling resources to support your child at home at this workshop at a cost of £1.00 per booklet.

Please text us on 07786 201172 or email: info@tennysonroad.school, if you will be attending the above.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Yours faithfully

Mrs. Rainbow-Dias
Foundation Stage Lead
Read Write Inc. at Tennyson Road

We believe it is vital that early reading experiences are happy and positive. Our aim is not just for children to learn to read, but to enjoy reading. At Tennyson Road we use the Read, Write Inc. Ruth Miskin Reading Teaching Scheme to teach children to read:

Children are taught to:
- Learn to read and write letter-sound correspondences
- Decode effortlessly, spell and handwrite easily
- Comprehend what they read
- Read with fluency and expression
- Write confidently using oral rehearsal
- Work effectively with a partner to articulate their learning at every step.

At the core of Read Write Inc. it is lively, vigorous daily teaching of synthetic phonics. Children learn the 44 common sounds in the English language and how to sound blended words for reading (decoding) at the same time as developing handwriting skills and spelling (encoding). They read lively storybooks and non-fiction texts with decidable vocabulary and consequently enjoy cusses early on.

We are dedicated to developing comprehension and composition and we use a variety of props and drama to enrich this process. Children are assessed regularly to ensure the groups are fluid and children are grouped and work at a pace and with others at the same stage. All staff are trained in this programme and regular workshops are offered to parents.

When the children are confident blending set 1 sounds up to 1.5 green word level they will receive a reading book and log. The initial books they take home will be phonetically de-code able so they experience immediate success. From then on they will progress through our school reading materials which contains a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts which are colour coded at different levels. We feel it is important that the children’s confidence with decoding and comprehension is paramount and move the children on with this in mind.

We encourage you to read with and to your child as much as possible.

Parent tips for teaching:

1. Little and often and fun is the key.
2. To hear sounds in their purest form. Please visit www.youtube.com ‘pure sounds’.
3. Initially do not use the alphabetic names of the letter, just the phonetic sounds.

When the child knows the first 5 sounds practice ‘Fred Talk’ daily.