

Bedmond Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you with some exciting news about the reading books we are launching within school. Having looked at a number of different schemes, it has been decided that after half term we will be starting **all the children** off on a new reading book scheme, this is applicable for every child across the whole school from reception to year 6. The children will still visit the library weekly and choose a book from here to read.

Book Bands are a proven approach to developing successful readers. The Book Band system helps us carefully grade books by difficulty. We, alongside the PTA and the English Hub, have purchased a selection of fiction and non-fiction books to broaden the children's knowledge, understanding and to help develop their vocabulary. The coloured bands stand for the different stages that children progress through on their way to becoming fluent readers. Your child should always have a banded book and pupils are given time by their teachers to change these books regularly.

Below is a table showing the expected progression throughout our school. There are many bands within each year group to enable differentiation. There will be books which they enjoy more than others but we will encourage the children to read a range of genres within a coloured band before moving to ensure breadth and fluency. Myself and Mrs Rowley have decided which band each child needs to start on using a range of assessments, and the book sent home will be a book that you child should be able to read fluently with only a little bit of help from you. They need to be able to read the words and to understand what they are reading. It is also important that they enjoy the books.

<u>Key Stage</u>	<u>Book Band Colour</u>
EYFS	Pink, Red, Yellow and Blue
KS1 (Year 1 and 2)	Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, Orange, Turquoise, Purple, Gold and White
KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)	Gold, White, Lime, Copper, Topaz and Ruby, Emerald and Sapphire and Diamond and Pearl

Reading is important, as well as being asked questions by an adult. It is therefore imperative that children read at home and adults listen to them. Children will therefore bring books home from school and should be reading them at home on a daily basis. It is important that the children look after the book they borrow and return this to school in the condition it is sent home in. Unfortunately, if books are not returned or destroyed you will be asked to replace it/them. Please remember they are from a set which many children are reading and it therefore hinders other children's progress should anything happen to the book.

We look forward to launching the new books in the week beginning 16th March and hope you enjoy reading with your child/children and see their reading develop.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss J Harris



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