



Soaring to success

# English How can Parents Help?

## English is all around us!

In the early stages of reading, this is simply a walk around the local area, noticing the print and signs the children can see, such as street signs and shop logos. It is also about recognising those early mark making opportunities, discussing with the children what their 'scribblings' mean (putting meaning to marks) or writing a shopping list of the things needed from the shop. Before children can read for themselves, parents should share stories and rhymes with children regularly in order to prepare them for handling books themselves, and developing 'story language'.

In Reception and Key Stage 1, parents can support children to decode words (the early stages of reading) by sounding them out and blending them together. Are they real words or nonsense words? Does that word make sense in that sentence? Or playing games to support key word recognition.

Regular reading is key, and we expect all parents to support their child with this throughout their journey at Kentmere for at least 10 minutes each day. The research shows that the more children read or are read to, the more they achieve. Did you know that if you read just one book a day to your child, they will have read 1825 books by their 5th birthday? The language they gain from reading is vital to their education.

When reading, encourage them to practice the skills they have been taught using prompts such as 'What can we do if we are stuck?' or 'What do good readers do?' Ask them questions about what they have read to ensure understanding and ask them to predict what will happen next, based on what they have read. After reading the book, ask them to sequence the story in their own words or summarise the main points. For older children, you can ask them their opinion on the characters in the story and the book as a whole.

## There are a number of useful websites:

Click here to learn how to pronounce the sounds in their pure form. <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/-lg=1&slide=2>

Click here to find out more about the RWI scheme. <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>

Click here to find out more about the Year 1 phonics screening check

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/school-year/assessment-at-primary-school/phonics-screening-check/>

Teach Your Monster to Read—free phonics games. <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/Phonics> play—free phonics games. <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Primary Games: <http://www.primarygames.com>

Purple Mash: <https://www.purplemash.com/login/> (your child has his/her own username and password)

Top Marks - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Teach You Monster to Read: <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/>

Phonics play: <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>