Dunswell Academy

part of Edukos Trust

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Mrs Catherine Burrell Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers of children in Class 4,

Reading Scheme Changes I am writing to inform you of some changes we have made to our school reading scheme. As you will most likely be aware, phonics is one of the first skills children need to master to decode texts and unfamiliar words. Once this is mastered and children are able to read more fluently with understanding, it is equally important for children to continue to develop enthusiasm for reading and reading for pleasure. In our experience, children are more motivated to read books they have chosen themselves rather than books they are given on the reading scheme.

For this reason, children currently in years 5 and 6 will be given the opportunity to choose their own reading books. These can be chosen from their classroom book corner, library or they are welcome to read books they already own at home. The expectation is that children will read their own book 3 times a week at home. This should be recorded in their reading journal and children who have read three times will move up the Reading Rocket in the same way as last year.

The main aim of these changes is to further develop reading for pleasure within school. At times, it may be that your child chooses books that are slightly below or above their current reading age to read at home. If your child has chosen such book, please take interest in it and encourage them to read the best they can and after suggest other books they can try. In order to ensure your child is accessing a variety of books, please encourage your child to read different authors and genres – we will also be doing this at school. We will also be introducing incentives like 'Book Bingo' to encourage children to be more adventurous with their book choices. We will be continuing to work on specific reading skills in our Reading Skills lessons and so home reading should be now seen as an opportunity for children to share books they enjoy with you at home, in order to further develop reading for pleasure.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many thanks for your continuing support.

Mrs Barrick

