Supporting your child’s reading in Year 3

Learning to read is a significant milestone in any child's life, and one that will bring many benefits over an entire lifetime. You play an important role in modelling reading behaviours and supporting your child's reading efforts. You make a difference to how your child will discover the world of literacy and how they view themselves as a reader.

What can you do to help your child become a reader?
What can you do to help support your child’s reading skills?

In Year 3 your child will:

**Vocabulary knowledge**
- use different words that mean the same thing (synonyms)
- use new words and terms to describe digital technology

**Comprehension**
- make comparisons to show their understanding
- retell, infer and discuss the features in the books they are reading

**Reading texts**
- read for 15-20 minutes at a time
- skim and scan to find important information in longer sections of reading material
- conduct investigations
- read simple chapter books and real life stories

Ways you can help your child’s reading in Year 3

**Get them to read another one** Introduce you child to a series or to a second book by a favourite author….you could ask your librarian for suggestions!

**Different strokes for different folks** Read a variety of books to your child and encourage them to choose a variety. Does your child prefer fiction or non-fiction books?

**First drafts are rough** Writing supports reading and reading supports writing. Remember that drafts are not perfect and remind your child that writing involves several steps.

**Synonym banks** Create written synonym lists with your child for everyday words such as good, bad, big. Use the words in the lists as much as possible in your daily life.

**Record your reading** Use a device to record your child’s reading, have them listen back to it and reflect on their fluency, expression, pace and accuracy. Have your child incorporate their own feedback and record again.

**Spot the patterns** Draw attention to any rhyming words (even if they are spelt differently), together make oral lists of as many rhyming words you can, write them, talk about the different patterns, for example, pear, bear, there, their.

**Encourage and praise** Reading should be enjoyable for you and your child. Always encourage their attempts and praise their efforts.

Talk to your child’s teacher about how you can support your child’s reading.