



13th May 2021

Dear Families,

Oxford Reading Buddy

We are delighted to announce the launch of **Oxford Reading Buddy** here at St. John Vianney R.C. Primary school. This is a new online Home-School Reading system which will further enhance the Reading provision for all of our children within school.

We have put together a list of Frequently Asked Questions to help you access this new online Reading system.

What is Oxford Reading Buddy?

Oxford Reading Buddy is a digital reading service to help your child to develop important skills in reading and to encourage them to read more. It contains hundreds of digital books from Oxford University Press's well-known reading series including Project X and the Biff, Chip and Kipper stories from Oxford Reading Tree - all matched to your child's reading level. It also offers special Coaching eBooks to develop comprehension.

What are Coaching eBooks?

Oxford Reading Buddy features a new set of books called **Coaching eBooks** which are specially written to develop the key skill of comprehension.

The Coaching eBooks contain a Reading Buddy, a fun friendly character who children can choose themselves and who prompts and models specific comprehension strategies. Your child's buddy will also ask questions and give tailored feedback.

When do children take quizzes?

At the end of most books is a quiz which your child should try to complete on their own. Their results will be sent to your child's class teacher so that they can track your child's progress against key comprehension skills. Children can also take quizzes on Oxford print books.

What books should my child be reading?

All the books and quizzes on Oxford Reading Buddy are carefully levelled according to Oxford University Press's levelling structure, Oxford Levels.

This means that the books to which your child has access will have just the right amount of support and challenge to ensure that they can read successfully, build confidence and make progress. Your child's class teacher has ensured that your child's level is the correct level for their reading ability.

A variety of factors determine the level of a book including phonic knowledge, vocabulary, sentence length, number of words on a page and use of illustrations. The maturity of the content is also considered, as well as how much comprehension and inference a book asks the reader to do.

In Oxford Reading Buddy, children move through levels automatically based on the numbers of books read and quiz scores achieved. However, your child's teacher can also move your child up or down a level depending upon their assessment of your child's reading.

How does my child access Oxford Reading Buddy?

The information chart displayed will provide you with all the information you need to know to help you get started.

Your child will also bring home an Oxford Reading Buddy card containing their username and password, which is needed to enable them to log on to Oxford Reading Buddy. These have been glued to the inside cover of their home-school Reading Record in the normal way.

Every week, your child will be asked to read two books of their own choosing from Reading Buddy every Friday. This should be completed by the following Friday. Your child's class teacher is then able to view the books that your child has read, their answers from the quiz and their score from the quiz. They are also able to see an analysis of the reading skills that your child was confident with in the quiz and the skills that they need further practise with in school.

Since your child's class teacher can access the reading they have done online, Reading Records no longer need to be brought into school. These should remain at home as they contain your child's log-in details for Oxford Reading Buddy alongside other online resources.

Your child's class teacher will send home their log in details this week and your child can access this immediately.

Reading Buddy is an online home-school Reading system and your child will continue to read with their class teacher through a range of Reading activities every week.

This is a really exciting step in our Reading journey in school and we know this will further enhance the Reading provision we are able to offer all of our children here at St. John Vianney Primary school.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or to contact me at admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

With my very best wishes,

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Deputy Headteacher