



Glazebury CE Primary School & Nursery

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Little Wandle Phonic information for parents and carers:

As we approach the end of the summer term, your child will have experienced the breadth of the Little Wandle Programme to structure the teaching of reading. We wanted to update parents on how the assessment of phonics are structured regarding this.

In Reception: children are assessed every half-term with a focus on decoding. This is a skill that is taught both during the daily phonic lessons and Guided Reading sessions, these sessions also enable the children to practise reading aloud in a group and developing their understanding of the text.

In Year 1, children are assessed every half-term with a focusing on decoding (*sounding out and blending words*), prosody (*reading with automaticity and expression*) and comprehension (*understanding the text*). **Automaticity** is the process of decoding and blending in the child's head and then saying the words aloud - this this progresses to recognising words by sight. Automaticity enables improvements in fluency and expression by Year 2.

By the summer term, most children will begin reading Phase 5 books and the focus shifts to reading (decoding) to reading with automaticity.

In Year 2, children focus on fluency and reading with expression. Children complete fluency assessments every half term to assess their ability to read at speed, with automaticity and enhanced fluency.

There are other children within our school who are specifically supported with their reading practice through the Little Wandle scheme will also continue to develop these three key skills during Guided Reading sessions; with the focus shifting towards automaticity and fluency when they reach Phase 5 of the programme.

I hope that as parents and carers you find this information helpful and if you have any questions regarding this, we are happy to discuss. You can see how reading is at the H.E.A.R.T of our school and how assessment plays a part in ensuring our children become great readers!

Kind regards,

Mrs Tate
Phonics Lead