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Executive Head: Mrs Sue Collins

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12th November 2020

Dear Families,

BIG CAT PHONICS

We are extremely happy to inform you that as a school we have made an investment into our home reading books to support the children in their reading development. The books that will now come home are part of the Big Cat Phonics reading strategy. The books aim to achieve a secure start for every child's reading journey. They help children progress from decoding words to reading fluently and for pleasure with fully decodable books. The books align closely to the Letters and Sounds phonics scheme that we follow. The children will bring home a book each week which will support their existing phonic skills.

We will continue to send familiar books home that we share during Guided Reading sessions in class. These books will continue to support your child in their reading fluency and awareness of high frequency words. It will mean that there are now two books that should be read each week.

If your child continues to bring a smaller familiar book and a larger library book, but no Big Cat Phonics book, this is because the Big Cat Phonics books are not appropriate for your child's reading level.

As part of the investment we have secured access for the children to use the Big Cat Phonics e-books in their online portal. We are using these in school and will provide your child with individual usernames and passwords to use from home later this term. This will support your child's access to high quality texts at home and school. The accessibility will continue throughout this whole academic year.

We are sure that you will recognise the significance of the investment and hope that you will support us with the new systems that are in place regarding 'Covid safe practice'. We ask that you return the books on **Monday morning** so we can allow every child to receive their new books on **Thursday**. Without your support we may not be able to change **all** books regularly.

We are certain that the investment in these brand new books and e-books, with your continued support and commitment, will make a great impact to your child's reading journey.

Yours Sincerely,

Ben Turner
KS1 Phase Leader

Adrienne Evans
Foundation Phase Leader

