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Reading in Key Stage Two

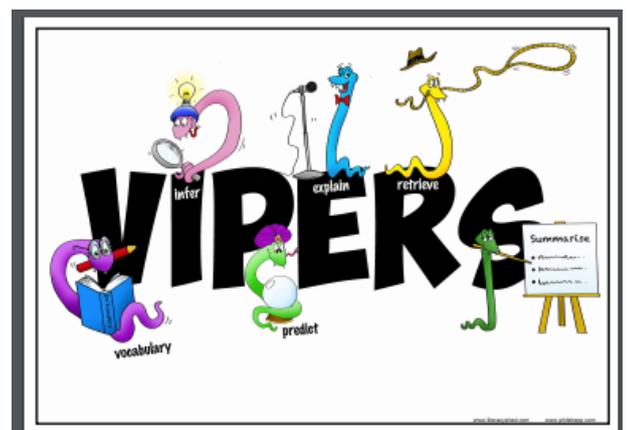
Dear parent and carers,

At Northbourne, we strive to make sure all children become confident readers who have a real enjoyment and passion for reading books and texts. We know that to successfully access all areas of the curriculum children need to be independent readers who fully comprehend what they are reading. With this in mind, it is always important to encourage children to read widely and regularly. In order to do this, we ask you to support your child with their reading at home.

Hearing your child read at home is still essential in Key Stage Two. Not only will this continue to foster a love of reading, it will also continue to develop both their reading and writing skills. As your child moves through Key Stage Two, they will become increasingly independent readers, requiring less guidance with the mechanics of reading and more support with developing the skills of comprehension, inference, prediction, summarizing and understanding vocabulary. As your child reads increasingly challenging texts, they encounter new and more complex vocabulary, themes, plots, characters and settings which you can help them understand through discussion. At home you can also play an important role in encouraging your child to read a wide range of texts including fiction and non-fiction, newspapers, magazines, electronic texts and poems.

Each child in Key Stage Two is given a reading diary and reading book which should be taken home every day and returned to school the next morning. Reading diaries are checked each day by teachers and are an invaluable way for teachers, parents and children to make comments about reading progress. By making regular positive comments in your child's reading record, your child will know that you are interested in their progress and that you value reading. As well as many other useful features, the records also contain reading targets and a genre wheel to help track and encourage the reading of a wide range of texts. We have also given each child a reading 'VIPERS' bookmark with question prompts which can be used for discussion at home when reading with your child.

We use reading VIPERS in school to teach reading comprehension in three whole class reading lessons per week. The VIPERS acronym links to specific reading skills:



- V: Understanding the author's use of **vocabulary**;
- I: Making **inferences** and justifying them with evidence from the text;
- P: **Predicting** what might happen from the details given and implied;
- E: **Explaining** authors use of language, structure, themes;
- R: **Retrieving** information from the text;
- S: **Summarising** ideas from more than one paragraph.

In Key Stage Two children are still expected to read at home daily and read aloud to an adult five three times a week. They are also expected to independently fill in their reading record if they read on their own, and will have been taught how to do this by their class teacher. When you hear your child read we would really appreciate it if you could add a comment. Children are always incredibly proud when their reading diaries show that they have read with an adult at home. If you feel you would like some advice or support with hearing your child read at home, please pop a note in your child's reading diary, speak to their class teacher or myself

The impact you have as parents and carers on your child's reading development is incredibly significant and we are extremely grateful of your continued support.

Best regards,

Lyn Hill, English Subject Leader