



WEST BOROUGH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Next week (w/b 27.09.2021) your child will bring home a book with no words. They will do this for the next couple of weeks and whilst we understand that you will be keen for them to begin reading words, wordless books are an important part of the process.

Here are a few tips for sharing wordless picture books with your child:

- There is no 'right' or 'wrong' way to read a wordless book. One of the benefits of using wordless books is how each child creates their own story (or stories!) from the same pictures. This allows them to build confidence.
- Spend time looking at the cover and talking about the book's title. Your child could make some predictions about the story.
- Take a "picture walk" through the pages of the book. Look carefully at the expressions on characters' faces, the setting and the colours they can see. Talk to each other about what you see. These conversations will enrich the storytelling.
- Enjoy the pictures and point out a few things, but don't worry too much about telling a story yet. Just enjoy the pictures and get a sense of what the book is about.
- Go back through the book a second time and get ready for some great storytelling! Consider going first and acting as a model for your child. Have different voices for the characters, add sound effects and use interesting words in your version of the book.
- Encourage your child to "read" you the book with their storytelling. Focus on the words your child uses when they tell the story. Help your child to expand their sentences or thoughts by encouraging them to add information from the illustration's details. One way to encourage more details is by asking "W" questions: Who? Where? When? Why?
- Finish by asking a few simple questions: What pictures helped you tell the story? What was your favourite part of your story?
- Sharing wordless books is a great way to build important literacy skills, including listening skills, vocabulary and comprehension.

The books that your child will bring home have some useful information to help you at the beginning and end of each book.

The children have been busy consolidating their Phase 1 Phonic skills since they joined us in Year R and we will be soon be progressing onto Phase 2. This is where we start to teach the sounds that specific letters make. You will receive some more information about this very shortly.

We are really looking forward to working with your children to ensure that they are keen and confident readers of the future!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask either myself or Mrs Dady.

Mrs Jury-Sofi
Early Years Lead & Bonsai Class Teacher
Early Years SEN Lead

