



## **St Mark's C.E. Primary School**

Talbot Village, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4JA

Headteacher: Andrew Bright

Monday 9 February 2026

### **RECEPTION – SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH PHONICS AND READING**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take a moment to share how incredibly proud we are of the Reception children and the fantastic progress they have made so far this year. They have been working very hard in phonics sessions and it is wonderful to see their growing confidence and enthusiasm for learning.

A key focus in Reception is phonics, particularly learning letter sounds and developing the ability to blend these sounds together to read words. This skill is essential for early reading and plays a huge role in supporting your child's overall progress across the curriculum.

To help you support your child at home, we are sending home a copy of the sound mat in the purple folders on Monday, which includes all the sounds the children are learning. Regularly practising these sounds and encouraging your child to blend them together when reading will make a real difference. Even short, frequent practice sessions can have a big impact.

Reading at home is one of the most valuable ways you can support your child's learning. Sharing books together, talking about the story, and encouraging your child to have a go at sounding out words helps to build their confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading. These skills will support them not only in phonics, but in all areas of their learning.

Thank you so much for your continued support at home. The progress the children are making is a real team effort, and we truly appreciate all that you do. We are so proud of how far the children have come already and look forward to seeing their continued growth.

If you have any questions about phonics or reading, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Reception team.

Kind regards,

Mr Vacher and Mrs Wells