

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Birklands, we are always looking for ways to make reading engaging, manageable and effective for both children and families. To support this, we are introducing a new Reading Record Card, which will replace the reading diaries we have previously used.

Every child from Reception to Year 6 will bring home a reading book and a matching Reading Record Card each day. The card will correspond to the book band your child is currently reading. Reception children will begin bringing home wordless books from their fourth week at Birklands.

The new Reading Record Cards serve the same purpose as our previous reading diaries by keeping a record of the books your child has read. Each card includes:

- A bookshelf image on the front page.
- A space in the centre to record completed books.
- A next step section to support your child's reading development (found on recording log cards below the Brown book band).

We ask parents and carers to simply tick the Reading Record Card each time they hear their child read at home. Staff in school will do the same when an adult listens to your child read during the school day.

We encourage children to read every day at home. Re-reading books helps children become familiar with new vocabulary, improve their fluency and deepen their understanding of what they have read.

To celebrate their reading journey, children can colour and decorate one of the books on the bookshelf at the front of their Reading Record Card each time they complete a book. Once the Reading Record Card is full, we will provide your child with a new card so they can continue recording and celebrating their reading achievements.

To help us support all readers effectively, please ensure that your child brings their reading book and Reading Record Card to school every day. This allows staff to listen to children read regularly and change books promptly when needed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop a lifelong love of reading. If you have any questions about our new Reading Record Cards, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Farrell