



# Hollybrook Infant & Junior Schools

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**Headteacher: Ms Marcella Dobson**

**Deputy Heads: Mrs Clare Clifford & Mrs Lisa Alderslade**

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

## Reading at Home



As you are aware, over the past year the Infant School have refreshed their home reading books so they are more closely matched the phonics the children are learning. The Junior school are currently in the process of reviewing and tweaking books sent home for practising reading. Library books will be sent home in the Juniors for the moment until the new books are ready. As a school, we have decided that our previous home reading diaries were not up to scratch! They were boring for the children and parents and not helping children feel motivated to read at home!

### **So..... we are launching a whole new reading challenge across the Hollybrook Schools!**

Children will earn 'miles' around a planned journey for each read they do at home and certificates will be given out when they reach a new destination.

- Year R will have a journey around our local area of Southampton
- Key Stage One will have a journey around the United Kingdom
- Key Stage Two will have a journey around The World

To begin with children will reach a destination after 5 reads, 10 reads and 15 reads. Then it becomes jumps of 15 reads for each destination. The ultimate destination is reached after 300 reads in a year... an aspirational challenge to aim for! When they reach a new destination, the children will be asked to completed a few activities about that place to learn more about the world in which they live!

The aim is to motivate children to read regularly at home and also increase their geography knowledge of their local area, the United Kingdom and the World over their time across the Hollybrook Schools!

We ask, as parents, that after your child has read to you, please record the date, title and sign to acknowledge your child has read. The class teachers will then be monitoring this and certificates will be given out in year group assemblies! The children will also be able to move their name around a class map when they reach each new destination!

We hope this new Reading challenge makes children feel excited to read at home and also helps you, as parents, motivate your child to read at home- a task that can sometimes be perceived as a 'chore' by children! Good luck and enjoy learning about lots of facts with your child (as teaching staff, we think we will probably be learning lots too about these destinations when children bring in all their interesting facts!)

Mrs Clifford and Mrs Alderslade