

# Padnell Infant School

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Dear Parents & Carers,

One of the most important skills a child can acquire is to learn to read. Here at Padnell we all recognise this and work hard to ensure your child is successful at reading as quickly as possible. This, we feel, gives them confidence to access the rest of the curriculum and indeed the world.

However, there is always more we can do to boost reading skills and motivate children so at Padnell we have introduced a 'Reading Rockets' system, which is in line with the system that Padnell Junior School follow. We feel this will support the consistency between the two schools for both the children and parents.

So this is how it works...

In your child's classroom the Reading Rockets will be displayed. There are five rockets; <5, 6-10, 11-15, 16-20 and 20+. All children in the class will have an individual star with their name clearly written on. Every time your child reads at home the total will be written on the star. The star will then be placed on the appropriate rocket. For example if your child has read 8 times since the beginning of half term, the number 8 will be written on the star and it will go on the '6-10' rocket.

We hope that the children will aim to reach the last rocket (20+), by the end of each half term which we feel is achievable for all. All children who finish on the 20+ rocket will receive a certificate.

As an additional incentive, the children will receive a raffle ticket **each time** they read at home. Every week in celebration assembly a ticket will be pulled out and the winning child will get to choose a new book to take home and keep.

For the 'Reading Rocket' system to be successful and for your child to fully participate, it is essential that you regularly read with your child at home and clearly date and sign in their reading diaries each time you share a book. This will support the adults in school to monitor this scheme and to ensure all children are active in taking part. As this is a new initiative the adults will be giving the children support to begin with and aim that soon after the children will be able independently access this system.

We hope that you agree that the 'Reading Rockets' are a fun, exciting, rewarding incentive that will encourage your children to want read even more.

Remember little and often is key and keep it fun and positive! Together lets continue to develop our children's love for reading and support them in becoming confident, competent and enthusiastic readers. If you need support in how to approach this or you are having any difficulties, we are always here to help.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Lazell  
Year R leader

Miss R Skillern  
English leader

Our Padnell promise to be a: **G**iving citizen  
**R**esilient learner  
**O**riginal thinker  
**W**ise worker

