

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Please find below information about the exciting '**6 before 6**' Year 1 Reading Challenge.

Depending on their age, the children will continue to be challenged to read a certain number of carefully chosen books by the end of the school year.

The books have been carefully selected to encourage reading for pleasure and to also support children in their classroom learning. The challenge includes a range of engaging, high-quality texts, some of which have been chosen because they have important links to the curriculum topics the children will be studying during their time at Courtwood.

Taking the time to read and discuss these texts at home will help provide the children with the important prior knowledge and understanding they need to kickstart their learning when they start the topics the following year. For example, reading 'The Little Pebble' in Year 2 will give them an invaluable foundation of knowledge to build upon when they start the science topic 'Rocks and Soils' in Year 3.

Once your child has completed all of their year group books they will receive a certificate in assembly and the class with the most books read at the end of the year will win a special, whole class award. Children will continue to have a tracking sheet in the back of their reading journals for you to sign once each book has been read. The children will then be asked some simple comprehension questions by their class teacher to check their understanding.

We understand that the books will not always be read independently and actively encourage the books to be shared and enjoyed at home, together with parents/carers.

We have copies of all of the chosen texts in school but we would still love some more. We have set up an Amazon wish list and would be incredibly grateful if any parents/carers could help us build up our book collection by purchasing any of the texts online for us. The more books we have, the more children we can help to complete the challenge and support their learning.

Your child's reading challenge books for **Year One** are:

**Katie in London** - James Mayhew

**Grace and Family** - Mary Hoffman

**Meerkat Mail** - Emily Gravett

**Tadpole's Promise** - Jeanne Willis

**What are Germs?** - Katie Daynes

**Puffin's First Book of Poems** - June Crebbins

Please feel free to come and see me should you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms S Frampton  
Literacy Co-Ordinator