



Together, we learn and grow



Collaboration



Courage



Curiosity



Creativity



Community

Thursday 17th September 2026

Dear All,

Thank you to those that could join us yesterday for our reading workshop, it was great to have so many of you join us.

Our aim at Orchard is to support all our pupils to become fluent readers who are ready for the next step in their learning journey. The children have daily reading lessons that focus on the key reading skills:

- Decoding and understanding vocabulary
- Reading Fluently
- Inference
- Retrieval
- Comprehension
- and most importantly reading for enjoyment.

How you can support with reading at Home:

Children will be assigned with a reading book that matches their ability and will have a reading for pleasure book from the library. The reading for pleasure book is for you to enjoy and your child will have picked this independently to share with you.

With the ability matched book, children will only read books that are entirely decodable, this means that they should be able to read these books as they already know the code contained within the book. Please support your child with this. We want children to practise reading their book at least 3 times across the week working on these skills:

- Decode - sounding out and blending to read the word.
- Fluency - reading words with less obvious decoding.
- Expression - using intonation and expression to bring the text to life!

If you have any questions about reading or phonics please ask me or your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support

Ellen Williams
Head of School

Executive Headteacher: Zoe McIntyre Head of School: Ellen Williams
Springfield Boulevard, Springfield, Milton Keynes, MK6 3HW
Telephone: 01908 735882

East Midlands Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales No. 08149829

