



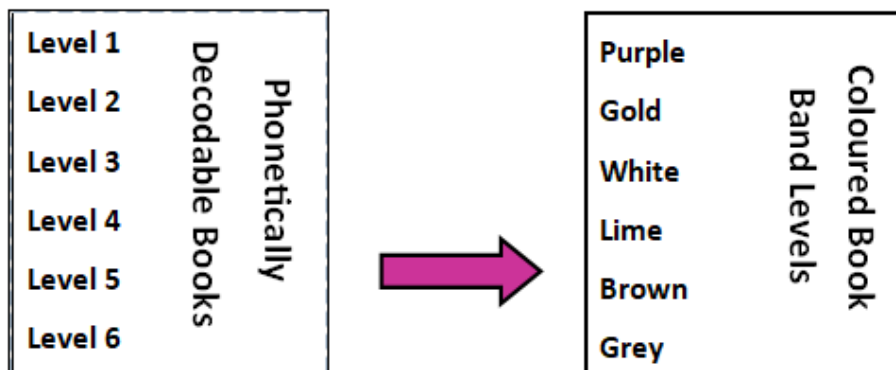
Year 3 Reading

Dear Parents,

Following our recent phonics and reading assessments with the children we have reviewed which level book each child needs in order to help them make the best possible progress following on from Year 2. For some children, this may mean that they have a different book to the one we sent home initially as this was prior to these assessments.

Which Reading Books will my child have?

If your child is still developing their [phonics skills](#) (Level 6 or below), instead of being given a coloured reading band book to take home, they will have a book that is phonetically decodeable and covers the sounds that are being taught/revised. We know that this follows the same approach as Heatherside Infants and is an important step in helping the children to become fluent and independent readers. In these books, there are also short activities for before and after reading that you might like to do as well as reading the text. In the first instance, we will be changing the children's phonics books with them, and this will happen weekly on a Thursday.



When will my child read the 'colour banded' books?

When children are able to confidently decode and apply the [Level 6 phonics](#) they will then move to a 'coloured book band' to help develop their fluency and comprehension. These books also ensure that the children can read and experience a range of text types and genres. Teachers and LSAs will regularly assess the children's progress in reading and will change their reading book level accordingly.

What about becoming a 'Free Reader'?

Once we are confident that your child is fluent and confident at the upper end of the banded books, they will become a Free Reader and can choose which book they will be reading from the Library. For some children, they may be at this stage already. Teachers will continue to monitor what children read, including through the use of a weekly library visit.

Reading for pleasure is an important part of learning and loving to read, and so we recommend that the children on a directed reading book also take home the book they have chosen from the library to enjoy at home in addition to their phonics/colour banded reading book.

The Year 3 Teachers