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Dear Parents/carers,



At Avalon, we believe that the development of good reading and comprehension skills is essential. Reading improves vocabulary and language skills and understanding of features, which can then be transferred to the children's own writing and speaking. As children read, their imaginations and empathy develop. Good reading and comprehension skills also enable children to access the wider curriculum.

It is true that children who read often and widely become better readers. We also appreciate that in our busy, interactive world, reading, for some children, can become a bit of a chore.

So, having looked at a number of different schemes, we have decided to invest in a newly launched digital reading scheme: the Oxford Reading Buddy.

**Today, we have officially launched the Oxford Reading Buddy in an assembly at school.** Your child will be able to access reading books covering a wide range of genres, at their level, using a digital device such as a laptop, tablet or mobile phone. At the end of each book there is a quiz which will develop and assess comprehension skills, the results of which will be monitored by your child's teacher to ensure that progression is maintained.

The Oxford Reading Buddy scheme is designed to work on any mobile device. It is not intended to be a replacement for reading traditional books but will be used as an additional tool.

Your child will be given their own username and password. On the Oxford Reading Buddy website, they need to go to student login and then put their information in, so that they can access books.

Once your child has read a book, he or she will need to take the quiz which is at the end. The quiz should be taken by your child independently to ensure a result which is an accurate reflection of his or her ability.

We have already launched the scheme with Years 1 and 5 and have had very positive feedback from both parents and children.

We would ask that you support your child as he or she becomes familiar with, and gains confidence in, using the ORB scheme. If you do experience any difficulties with the scheme, please don't hesitate to talk to your child's English teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Callaway  
Headteacher