

Case Study B – Reward Challenges

There is uncertainty if children should be rewarded for reading. Should reading for pleasure be the reward? Rewards have been tried and tested to encourage children to read at home. An example of a reward has been children reading 5 times a week, they then collect stars and the children with the most at the end of the half term would earn themselves a lovely treat! A cinema visit, play centre, a bouncy castle in the hall. Other incentives could be class or key stage driven rather than whole school. A reading teddy to take home or a tea party. Are we rewarding the same children each half term and are we really reaching out to those who need the extra reading support? Ultimately children in EYFS and KS1 need their parents to instigate the reading at home. Firstly, we need the parents to be on board and understand the importance. They need the skills to feel successful to do this at home.

Parents can be given the skills by being taught and trained, supported in school. This can be done through workshops aimed at phonics and reading. Drop in's sessions can be carried out so that parents get to see their children in action in a non – threatening way. They can also be asked to reading afternoons or 15 minutes sessions at the end of the day, where they have the opportunity to share books with their children. Modelling all of this to parents will help build parents confidence, knowing what to do with their children and how to support their reading.