



# Hoyland Springwood Primary School

Cloughfields Road, Hoyland, Barnsley, S74 0ER  
T: 01226 743815 e: [springwood@ecmtrust.co.uk](mailto:springwood@ecmtrust.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Katherine Clark  
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Gerry Wilson

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents,

One of our school priorities this year is to continue to increase the progress that our children make in reading and to particularly look at how we can support the children in understanding texts at an even greater depth.

We have introduced a new approach to the teaching of these comprehension skills called Read & Respond. This approach involves children and their parents/carers sharing a text at home in advance of a taught lesson with the class teacher. This session will usually take place on a Friday morning and will focus on deepening the children's understanding of the text. There will be lots of opportunity for discussion and the children to share their own thoughts about the extract that they have read.

Text extracts will be sent home with your child on a Friday in preparation for the Read & Respond lesson the following Friday. Please would you support your child by either reading the text to him/her or providing time for him/her to read the text independently. The text will not be read as part of the lesson so it is really important that the text is shared at home before the following Friday. We are aware that some parents are not confident readers themselves so are looking at ways to support the children with this without needing a parent/carer to read to them. Further information will be sent in due course. If for any reason you forget to read the text, lose it or otherwise have any queries, please let your child's class teacher know.

The feedback from the staff and children in the classes that have already started their Read & Respond sessions has been really positive and we look forward to seeing the children's reading skills developing as the year progresses.

One final plea – please try to avoid your child 'reading on'; it is important that all of the children are at the same point in the story so that they are approaching the text with a shared understanding!

Thank you for your support with this.

Yours sincerely

*K. Clark*

Mrs Katherine Clark  
Headteacher

