Week 2 Term 3 2014  “The school of choice”

School dates to remember!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Week</td>
<td>Monday 28th July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance at Westfield Mt Druitt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Week Assembly</td>
<td>Wednesday 30th July</td>
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<tr>
<td>K-2 Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>K-2 Excursion to Parramatta Riverside Theatre</td>
<td>Thursday 7th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Friday 8th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS Mathematics test</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royce Simmons Rugby League Gala Day</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responsible Pet Talks for K-2</td>
<td>Monday 18th August and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 20th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Camp to Narrabeen</td>
<td>Monday 18th August to Friday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22nd August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
<td>Tuesday 2nd September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini-Fete</td>
<td>Thursday 4th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blacktown Music Festival</td>
<td>Tuesday 9th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance Night</td>
<td>Wednesday 17th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
<td>Friday 19th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2 Camp to Cockatoo Island</td>
<td>Tuesday 21st to Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22nd October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
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From The Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3. It’s gearing up to being a busy one!

I cannot stress enough the need for parents to read our newsletter. It contains vital information and often deadlines for payments for excursions. We often have phone calls asking for assistance or clarification of times and dates, when this information is in permission notes and either in the newsletter or on the school website.

Our eNewsletter goes on line every even week of a school term. Our Facebook page contains information and allows for almost instant communication. It’s very hard for teachers and office staff seeing children upset because they have missed payment dates etc because notes have not been read or newsletters not checked. We ask you to read all communication from the school. If you don’t have the internet please contact the office and we can arrange a printed newsletter for you.

Our new administration program has been installed and is working beautifully. Weekly notes will now be issued to parents who have not returned an absence note. It is always a good practice to return a note on the day your child returns to school. All absences must be explained. Please note this is a Department Of Education requirement. Last week, we had a cold morning and over 40 children arrived late to school. We received reasons mainly along the lines of “it was cold” or “we slept in”. Parents again have to explain these reasons and parents must accompany children to the office when late, to supply a reason. The Home School Liaison Officer will be contacting a number of parents shortly. Again I ask you to ensure children are at school after 8.50am in the morning and before 9.20am. No children should be on school premises prior to 8.50am. There is no supervision at this time and is reportable.

Congratulations to our Stage 2 children who attended Longneck Lagoon this week. From all reports I received, the children were exceptional and learnt so much. Our Athletics Carnival was today and again we have been blessed with great organisation and supportive staff to ensure the day was a success.

Next week is Education Week and Mrs Walker will be supplying information about the planned activities for the week. In reality, Education week could be any week at our school as they are all busy and engaging.

Planning for our 2015 Kinder Orientation Days has commenced. We are expecting 4 classes again for next year. If you know of any families not enrolled yet, could you please ask them to contact the office as soon as possible.

Phil Harris
Welcome to winter! Please help us retrieve lost items of clothing by ensuring they are labelled with a name and class. Our students are looking great in their winter uniforms and it’s great to see our new sports shirt also being worn on sport days. The new sports shirts can be purchased from Lowes.

Many things have been happening already this term with Odd Shoe day returning and students having lots of fun with odd shoes and socks – a very colourful day! Our teachers are working their way through the comprehensive Focus on Reading program and students are benefitting in the classroom as teaching ideas and strategies are tried and refined. Longneck Lagoon has been a wonderful learning experience for Stage 2 students and we have the upcoming visit to the Riverside Theatre for K-2 students.

Our Athletics Carnival for 3-6 was today and the K-2 carnival is fast approaching so get ready to hear some good old fashioned “war cries” as students prepare to support each other in all the events. Our sport houses are Bungarribee (Red), Tench (Yellow), Nepean (Purple) and Prospect (Blue). Have fun getting ready and listening to lots of cheering at home.

Education Week is also being celebrated next week and our teachers and students have been working hard throughout the year to bring us some wonderful performance items. The Education Week Assembly is at school on Wednesday 30th July in Week 3. Parents and friends are invited to join us for the assembly, our annual Book Fair and a morning tea stall and BBQ. Come along and enjoy lunch in the playground with your children after visiting the classroom for a very quick look at where your child spends much of their school day, have a sausage sandwich and cake from our Year 6 fundraiser stalls and check out the Book Fair in the library – great books at very reasonable prices! We all know the more our children read the better they become at reading so it may be time to take home a new book to read to your children or that your children can read to you – a great winter activity.

Happy times are ahead at Walters Road – enjoy!

Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal

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**Stage Reports**

**Early Stage 1 News**

Congratulations to all the students who received their Silver and Bronze Awards last week.

This term, Mrs Cook, a student teacher will be doing her final teaching practicum with KT. She is excited to be at Walters Road. Please make her feel welcome. In regard to staffing, Mrs McHardy will be on leave, returning on the 25th of July. Ms Seymour will be teaching KM at this time.

**Events coming up:**

- **Education Week from the 28th of July to the 1st of August.**
- **K-2 Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 6th of August.** All students to wear their team colours on the day. A separate letter with information has already been provided to parents and caregivers.
- **Excursion to Riverside Theatre on Thursday 7th of August to watch Mr McGee and the Biting Flea.** Students need to be in their full school uniform. Payment for this excursion has closed.
- **Grandparents Day on the 19th of September.** We cannot wait to see what Mr McNamara and KM will be planting in the Kindergarten garden bed.

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

**Grandparents Day**

**When:** Friday 19th of September

**Time/Where:** 1:40pm to 2:20pm- An afternoon tea/picnic on Douglas and Evans Grass. On this day, if students are accompanied by an adult, they are able to move between playgrounds.

2:20pm to 3:20pm- Class visits
Stage 1 News
Welcome back to Term 3! It is going to be another busy term of exciting events and wonderful learning. Education Week is next week, the K-2 Athletics Carnival is in Week 4 and so is our excursion to Riverside Theatre. Please take note of dates, times and details.

Congratulations to those students who received their Silver and Bronze Awards last week at our special assembly. Students will be working towards the next level of award throughout the term by coming to school regularly and exhibiting positive behaviours. Our Gold Awards assembly will be on Thursday of Week 1 next term.

Our first English unit in Stage 1 this term is on narratives, with a particular focus on Pamela Allen. Students in 1H each thought of some questions we could ask Pamela Allen and I thought I would share some of these with you.

- Why do you write for kids and not adults? by Rayhana
- When did you write your first book? by Kaylan
- Why did you decide to be a teacher? by Georgia
- What did you use to make the pictures? by William
- How many books have you written? by Rahma
- How old were you when you got your first job? by Jayda
- Do you visit the hospital for kids? by Hanna
- Do you have a cat? by Yog

Stay tuned for more stories of celebration from other classes in Stage 1!

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1

Stage 2 News
Welcome back to Term 3. I hope everyone had a restful holiday.

This term is promising to be a busy one. Stage 2 have attended the Longneck Lagoon excursion this week, and listening to comments from students and teachers everyone had a good time.

Stage 2 Camp in Term 4 is now just around the corner. The final payment ($40) is due on Friday 1st August 2014.

This is the time of the year when colds and coughs are on the increase. To maintain hygiene, can you please send tissues to the class teachers as we are low on stock.

Mrs S. Maack
Assistant Principal - Stage 2

Stage 3 News

Stage 3 Camp
The last day for the medical notes to be returned is on Friday 25th July, as we need to forward relevant information to the camp staff early next week. Please ensure that you have kept up with your payments. Final payments are due by Friday 8th August.

Year 6 Parent Meeting
The next Year 6 parent meeting for the Year 6 Farewell will take place on Friday 8th August in Mr Dyer’s room starting at 3.30 pm. Thank you to all the parents who attended the last meeting.

Odd Shoe Day
A big thank you to all the staff and students who supported our Odd Shoe Day. We managed to raise $275.50 for the Year 6 Farewell. It was great to see so many people joining in the fun of this day.

Education Week Assembly
A major fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell is a Cake Stall & BBQ that occurs after the Education Week Assembly next week on Wednesday 30th July, 2014. Year 6 students will be donating a variety of treats for you to purchase on the day. Prices will vary. These delicious sweets will be available outside the rooms near the handball court. Parents will be able to purchase tea or coffee for $1 from the 3-6 RFF room (near the cake stall).

A BBQ will also be selling beef ($2) and chicken ($2.50) sausages on a roll after the assembly for visitors, students and teachers. Cans of drink will also be on sale for $1 near the BBQ. This will be located in the area between the K-2 toilets and the Kindergarten building.

We look forward to seeing you on the day and thank you for your ongoing support.

Year 6 Raffle
Raffle tickets have gone home to raise further funds for the Year 6 Farewell. Prizes include a slushy machine, a voucher pack (Hoyts, laser tag, bowling) and a hamper. We are currently trying to source a further prize. Raffle tickets are to be returned to the P&C box in the office by Tuesday 29th July.

Mr M. Dyer
Assistant Principal – Stage 3
Library News

It's Book Fair Time!!!!!!

That's right - the Book Fair is back! This week, classes have had the opportunity to view the items available at the Book Fair. Next week, Education Week, is the week during which fiction and non-fiction books, activity books, posters and stationery items can be purchased, any time the Library is open. Of particular interest to parents, family members and friends might be the chance to come to the Fair with (or without) your children, on Open Day, which is next Wednesday.

After their time this week perusing the available items, students took home a 'wish list' of items they especially liked, as well as a brochure. If you would like your child to purchase an item next week, payment can be made online (as per Book Club brochures), with details being filled in on the form on the back of the wish list, or on the back of the brochure. Alternatively, cash payments are certainly welcome, as are cheques (made payable to Walters Road Public School).

Students receive their items on the day they pay, unless stocks have run out, in which case they need to wait for the ordered item to be sent to school, just as it is with Book Club. Unfortunately, some items cannot be re-ordered, so it is a matter of "first in". For those parents who may not be aware, Book Fair resources are supplied by Scholastic, the same company that provides Book Club items. As a thank you for holding the Fair, Scholastic allows us to select a range of books, free of charge. The number of books depends on the total of sales, but it is certainly a win-win for our school. The Fair is also a win-win for one student from K-2 and one from 3-6, as each student's name is entered into a draw to win a free book. Winners will be announced on Open Day. Hope to see you at the Fair!

Still on the subject of books (is there a better topic?), Issue 5 brochures for Book Club have been distributed. Orders need to be given to me on or before July 28. Thanks!

Mrs L. Higgins
Teacher-Librarian

Kindergarten 2015

Will your child be starting Kindergarten in 2015?

Do you know any other families with children starting Kindergarten in 2015?

It is important that you enrol any children who will be starting Kindergarten in 2015 as soon as possible. By enrolling your child now you are able to ensure that they are included in our Kindergarten Orientation sessions. Our sessions this year are on:

- Wednesday 15th of October
- Wednesday 29th of October
- Wednesday 12th of November

These sessions are incredibly important to both you and your child because they provide an opportunity to:

- Help your child settle into our school as smoothly as possible.
- Make you aware of our school organisation.
- Help you support your children in their education.

Kindergarten Orientation sessions also provide our Kindergarten teachers with the opportunity to get to know the new students, as well as to observe your child in the school setting, in order to assist us in planning the best possible Kindergarten experiences for your child.

Your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before 31st July in that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

If your child will be starting school in 2015 please visit the front office as soon as possible to complete the necessary forms for enrolment. If you know of families in the area who have children who will be starting school next year please pass on this information.
**Year 6 Raffle**

Tickets – 50c each or 3 for $1
Money & tickets due back at school by Tuesday 29th July
Raffle drawn – Wednesday 30th July
Prizes include: slushy machine, voucher pack and a hamper

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**Education Week Assembly**

**Year 6 Fundraiser**

Can of Soft Drink - $1
Beef Sausage on a roll - $2
Chicken Sausage on a roll - $2.50
Tea/Coffee (parents only) - $1
Cakes and other treats – various prices

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**Evans High School – Help Needed!**

Evans High School applied for, and received, an NRAM Community Grant of $5000 to support a Driver Education Program for our students.

We have since been nominated for the People’s Choice Award. If we get 1000 votes, we double our money and if we win, we treble our money! More money = more resources which will allow for an extended program with Walters Road Public School, as mentioned on the link.

To vote, click on the following link and then click on the orange "vote" button. Enter your email address, then go to your email and verify your vote. Voting closes at the end of the month.


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**Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)**

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**Our PBL Winners for Week 8, Term 2 were:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haniya K/1C</td>
<td>Yasmin 2G</td>
<td>Clohe KL</td>
<td>Sam KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan KV</td>
<td>Clara 1J</td>
<td>Mica KL</td>
<td>Dylan KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dristi K/1C</td>
<td>Tegbir KV</td>
<td>Mia KV</td>
<td>Cooper KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia KV</td>
<td>Bridie KV</td>
<td>Lana KV</td>
<td>Tegbir KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zane 6W</td>
<td>Parveen 5M</td>
<td>Tahlia 5M</td>
<td>Dwija 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
<td>Angelica 3/4C</td>
<td>Daniel 3A</td>
<td>Josh 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zane 6W</td>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
<td>Tyson 3/4C</td>
<td>Lyndsay 3/4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neveah 4J</td>
<td>Gavan 3A</td>
<td>Angelica 3/4C</td>
<td>Amreeta 3/4C</td>
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**Our PBL Winners for Week 9, Term 2 were:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ellie 2N</td>
<td>Benson KM</td>
<td>Gurshaan 1J</td>
<td>Zara KT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff 1J</td>
<td>Lina KM</td>
<td>Shamiah 2S</td>
<td>Aanvi 2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew K/1C</td>
<td>Brooke 1/2B</td>
<td>Santana 2G</td>
<td>Froilan KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monique KL</td>
<td>Destiny KM</td>
<td>Aguer 2S</td>
<td>Nikola KT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wafaa 4J</td>
<td>Natasha 4L</td>
<td>Ayesha 4L</td>
<td>Gavan 3A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosalynda 3A</td>
<td>Anmol 4L</td>
<td>Daniel 3A</td>
<td>Kiran 3A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandira 3A</td>
<td>Noel 5M</td>
<td>Adjenn 5/6D</td>
<td>Kiran 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shandy 6W</td>
<td>Ghazal 3A</td>
<td>Martin 3/4C</td>
<td>Brittney 4L</td>
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**Our PBL Winners for Week 1, Term 3 were:**

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<th>LEARNER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhys KT</td>
<td>Adrian KV</td>
<td>Tegbir KV</td>
<td>Zulaal 1H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella KV</td>
<td>Shamiah 2S</td>
<td>Georgia 1H</td>
<td>Bella KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam KV</td>
<td>Ethan 2S</td>
<td>Anesa 1H</td>
<td>Lina KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayden KT</td>
<td>Millie 1H</td>
<td>Hanna 1H</td>
<td>Harry KV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron 4J</td>
<td>Tan 4/5K</td>
<td>Kiana 4L</td>
<td>Thai 4L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam 4J</td>
<td>Olivia 6W</td>
<td>Sarah 4L</td>
<td>Mihiterina 6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wairirirangi 4/5K</td>
<td>Wafaa 4J</td>
<td>Hannah 3/4C</td>
<td>Ashley 3/4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arindam 4/5K</td>
<td>Tracy 4J</td>
<td>Sua 4J</td>
<td>Nicholas 6W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Lost Mobile Phone**

A mobile phone has gone missing in the school grounds recently and is desperately being missed by its owner.

If you have found a mobile phone or seen one anywhere in the grounds, please contact the front office.
Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC

Would like to invite you to attend our Rangers Girls Football Development Program.

Learn essential skills necessary for future football success in a fun environment.

Mt Druitt Town Rangers Girls Football Development Program will run:

From: Friday 18th July 2014
To: Friday 19th September 2014
Each Friday Night: 6:30pm to 7:30pm
Ages Groups: Under 9 & Under 14 Girls
Venue: Mabula Park, Logan Street, Blacktown
Cost: $200

If you have any questions, please contact the club at mtrfc@gmail.com or visit our website www.mtdruitttownraiders.com.au

NSW POLICE FORCE

Blacktown LAC

BLACKTOWN POLICE / BLACKTOWN HIGHWAY PATROL TARGETING SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY.

The School Holidays are over so as you make your return to school, Blacktown Police would like to remind all parents that the Blacktown HPS and Blacktown LAC will be out in force to ensure that your school zone is as safe as possible for your child to return to school and maintain that safety throughout the term. The speed from 8am-9:30am and 2:30pm-4:00pm, in a school zone, is a 40km/h zone.

Blacktown Police will be focusing on parking offenses, speeding offenses and pedestrain safety at crossing. REMEMBER – Kiss and Drop zones are not to be parked in. Drive in, Drive out.

POLICE URGE ALL PARENTS TO ENSURE THEIR CHILD IS DROPPED OFF IN A SAFE MANNER AND ENCOURAGED TO USE THE SCHOOL CROSSING WHEN NECESSARY.

Parents are reminded that there are steep penalties for any of offenses in school zones and include:

- Speeding offenses: 10km and under in a school zone – 3 points $156.00
  10km and over in a school zone – 4 points $354.00
  Over 40km in a school zone – 5 points $504.00

It’s easy to see that if you are travelling at just 30km/h in a school zone, you will lose 4 points and a lot of money... be aware of your speed, save a life and your wallet.

- Parking offenses: double parking. No Stopping, No parking. Bus Zones, dropping off your kids at a crossing are all offenses. park and walk if you cannot safely and lawfully park or stop your vehicle to allow children to cross.

- Crossing Offenses: Slow down and stop when children are crossing the road, always watch your crossing Marshall if you have one, when the STOP – Childless Crossing sign is displayed, YOU MUST STOP.

- Plane offenses – stay off your phone, especially in a school zone, we need you to concentrate on your driving.

- Smoking in vehicle when children under 16 present: illegal, bad for a child’s health and expensive if you are caught, $220 fine.

- Child Restraints and Seatbelts: Ensure your child restraints are fitted correctly, are appropriate for your child’s age and weight and the seatbelts are fastened.

Blacktown Police ask you all to SLOW DOWN when KIDS are AROUND !!!
Pause, Prompt... Praise

At a glance

You may have already heard of Pause, Prompt Praise or the 3Ps as it is sometimes called. These three catchy words, Pause, Prompt Praise describe a simple technique that, used well, will support your child to practise his/her reading and to develop more reading confidence.

The principle of Pausing – then Prompting – and then Praising is very useful to remember and apply anytime your child is reading aloud to you.

Pause, Prompt Praiseteachers and trained tutors often use a more structured version of this principle but the following tips can help you to try it out when reading with your child at home.

The 3Ps technique is best used when your child is reading and gets stuck on words that they can’t read or are new to them.

When your child encounters words that are difficult for them to read, the 3Ps technique will allow him/her the opportunity to have another go, self-correct, or, if needed, find out (be told) what the problem word is.

Introduction

Two important things to remember from the outset when using the 3Ps:

- The goal of reading is to understand (make sense of) what is read, so always keep this in mind when you are prompting and praising your child.
- Try to ensure that you are relaxed, interested and supportive, which in turn, will help your child feel OK when they make mistakes or just can’t work out a word and need to be told what it is.

At home this technique will work best when your child is reading a text that is well-matched to their reading level, that is, where your child can easily read most of the words in the text and only fail on occasional words.

Before reading, make sure that you are both comfortable and can clearly see the text your child is reading.

Pause,

Once your child starts reading aloud carefully follow the text as they read. If (or when) your child comes to a word they don’t know try not to jump in straight away and supply the correct word. Wait and give your child time to work out the word.

In the first instance ‘pausing’ creates an opportunity for your child to try and self-correct or work out the word for him/herself.

Prompt...

If your child successfully supplies the word they have stumbled over it’s a good idea to suggest that he/she goes back to the beginning of the sentence and rereads the whole sentence again (to recap meaning) before reading on.

If your child has not independently worked out the problem word, at this point you may interview and prompt them with some quick, low-key suggestions about what they could do. Say things like:

- “Try reading on for a sentence or two, miss out the difficult word and see if that helps you to work it out what it is.”
- “Look at the sound the word begins with, say that sound and think about what might make sense here. Look at the pictures and see if they give you a clue to what the word might be.”
- “Go back to the beginning of the sentence, reread it and have another go at working it out.”

If prompts like these are not working, this is the point at which you simply tell your child the correct word. After a short time ‘prompting’ say:

- “Would you like me to help you or how about I tell you the word? You may even briefly explain the meaning of the word but then quickly prompt your child to continue reading.

Try not to spend too much time prompting as your child will find it difficult to maintain the overall meaning of what they are reading.

Praise

This is the easiest part of the process for any parent because it’s something that comes naturally. Praise your child’s reading efforts and successes whenever you think it is appropriate during the reading process.

As well as praising their effort it is often good to tell them why. For example you might say:

- Well done, I thought it was brilliant the way that you went back, reread the sentence from the beginning and worked out that word you were having trouble with.
- That was great reading tonight, I know I had to tell you a few words but you also worked out some tricky ones for yourself. Well done.