



Highwood Primary School,
Fairwater Drive,
Woodley,
READING,
Berkshire.
RG5 3JE

Tel: 0118 926 5493

Email: admin@highwood.wokingham.sch.uk
www.highwood.wokingham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr M Hickey BA(Ed), PE QTS

13/01/2021

Re: Access to Reading Materials

Dear Parents / Carers,

In order to support children's reading at home during this period of lockdown, we have been working on a number of ways to get reading materials into homes in a safe and effective manner. To this end, we have been looking at, and investing in, a variety of subscriptions packages and supporting devices so that as many children as possible can benefit from.

There are two main software packages we have been exploring:

Get Epic - <https://www.getepic.com/>

- This is an American site but allows **free access** to a wide range of reading materials.
- Parents can set up their own free trial for full access by downloading the App
- The school will add children into class groups and share the login information with you
- Children can have unlimited access to reading materials during the school day and limited access out of school hours.
- The books are similar to our 'book band books' and also link to our Accelerated Reader levels
- Many books have the audio options for the books to be read to the reader

MyOn – Renaissance Learning

- This is an additional package linked to our Accelerated Reader software that we have purchased this week
- It costs the school £2500, so I really hope parents will encourage their children to access the reading materials available.
- For all children with accelerated reader logins, MyOn will give the children access to over 7000 books (all with the usual quizzes attached to them).
- The school setup is almost complete and training will hopefully take place on Thursday.
- It can be accessed on mobile apps available for iPad, Android tablets, Chromebooks & Kindle Fire HD
- The school is also looking at investing in multiple Kindle devices that we can provide to children without iPads or tablets, so that they can access the 7000 books available.

Once children have access to these reading materials in both these pieces of software, I will let you know immediately. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Hickey'.

Matt Hickey
Headteacher