

# School Fluency Priority in 2016

One of Landsdale Primary School's priority areas within English is Reading Fluency and Automaticity.

**Fluency** is the ability to read a text accurately and quickly. Fluency not only involves automatic word identification but also paying attention to rhythm, intonation, expression, recognising punctuation, and phrasing. **Automaticity** is fast, accurate and effortless word identification at the single word level. **The goal is to move students from automaticity to fluency, so that their reading mirrors spoken language.**

Fluency is important because fluent readers recognize words and comprehend at the same time. Less fluent readers must focus their attention on figuring out the words, leaving them little time for understanding what they read.

**Repeated and monitored oral reading improves reading fluency and overall reading achievement. Repeated oral reading substantially improves word recognition, speed, and accuracy as well as fluency.**

One of the major differences between good and poor readers is the amount of time they spend reading. What matters for struggling readers is that:

- Kids need to read a lot
- Kids need books they can read
- Kids need to learn to read fluently

## What Can You Do At Home To Improve Your Child's Reading Rate

**Child-adult reading.** In child-adult reading, the student reads one-on-one with an adult. The adult reads the text first, providing the child with a model of fluent reading. By reading effortlessly and with expression, the adult is modelling for the child how a fluent reader sounds during reading. Then the child reads the same passage to the adult with the adult providing assistance and encouragement. The child rereads the passage until the reading is quite fluent. This should take approximately three to four re-readings. Usually, having the child read a text four times is sufficient to improve fluency. Re-reading should occur over the school week, approximately 10-15mins per day.

## Home Reading Routine

Parents are expected to ensure that home reading, fluency and automaticity practice become a regular part of the family routine.

- Talk with your child about the importance of reading
- Reward your child for reading effort
- Sign your child's diary or document that reading has been done
- Make a time, place and space just for home reading. It doesn't have to be at a table or desk.
- Read for small amounts of time often, rather than longer periods only a couple of times a week
- Model fluent reading through child-adult reading

