***“Book - in - a - Bag”***

Some of our fondest memories as children are the times we spent listening to a favourite story read by someone we loved. How amazing it was to hear the person read with enthusiasm and make the story come to life. If a child is to learn how to read, they must first establish some concepts about books and print. Over the next few months, we will be asking you to note your child’s reading abilities and experiences while reading “little books” we send home for them to read AND any comments your child makes while listening to you read other favourite stories.

***Tips for Parents:***

After you have finished sharing a book with your child, try some of the following:

* Point to a letter and explain to your child that the individual black marks are called *letters*.
* Demonstrate how you can point to the first letter of a word.
* Talk to your child about what the *first letter* means. Have your child point to the first letter in the book, title, author’s name, etc.
* Explain that a *word* is made up of letters and that there are spaces between the words. Demonstrate how to *“hug” a word*. Hugging a word means using two fingers to bracket a word. Have you child “hug” the first word in a sentence and the first word on a page.
* Ask your child: “How do you know where this word ends?”
* Turn the page and demonstrate *where one starts reading* on the page.
* Read the page. Then have your child turn to the next page and point to where one continues to read.
* Always use the *pictures* to help your child predict what the story will be about.

We will be pleased to offer any other tips or suggestions to support your shared reading journey with your child.

***Happy Reading!***

***The Kindergarten Crew***

***PLEASE NOTE:***

***After you’ve read the “little” books, please return them to school, with the recording sheet, and your child may choose a new book to take home for the following week.***

***Thank-you for reading every day with your child!***