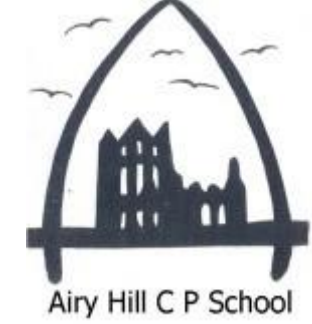


Supporting Reading at Home -Reluctant Readers-



Reluctant readers

At Airy Hill, we understand that it is not always easy to get your child to read after a long day at school and we would never want it to become a battle for parents and pupils.

Often, reluctant readers are children who find reading challenging, but this is not always the case. There are many children who have not yet developed an enjoyment and passion for reading.

This term we are focusing on reluctant readers and how we can encourage them to read at home.

Camouflage reading

– all reading is positive, whether it be a reading book or not.

If your child is not engaging in reading their reading book, could they try:

- Reading the television guide
- A newspaper article that may interest them (Newsround online is good for this)
- A short snippet of a magazine or comic they enjoy
- A restaurant menu
- Jokes
- Instructions for their favourite game

We love to see these things written in reading records too!

Try to build reading into your routine

- Having a quiet, comfortable space your child (and you) can read in can encourage a love for reading.
- Read with your child, to your child and in front of your child.

Both reading and hearing texts are important. If your evenings are busy, could your child read to you while you cook dinner? In the car? Before bed?



Quality is better than quantity

We would prefer pupils to read a short section of a text to a good quality than lots of pages that they didn't read fluently or understand.

There is nothing wrong with rereading snippets of the same book if it is helping your child.

- Ask a range of questions
- Ask children to predict what might happen based on the illustrations
- Ask children questions about characters and plot

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



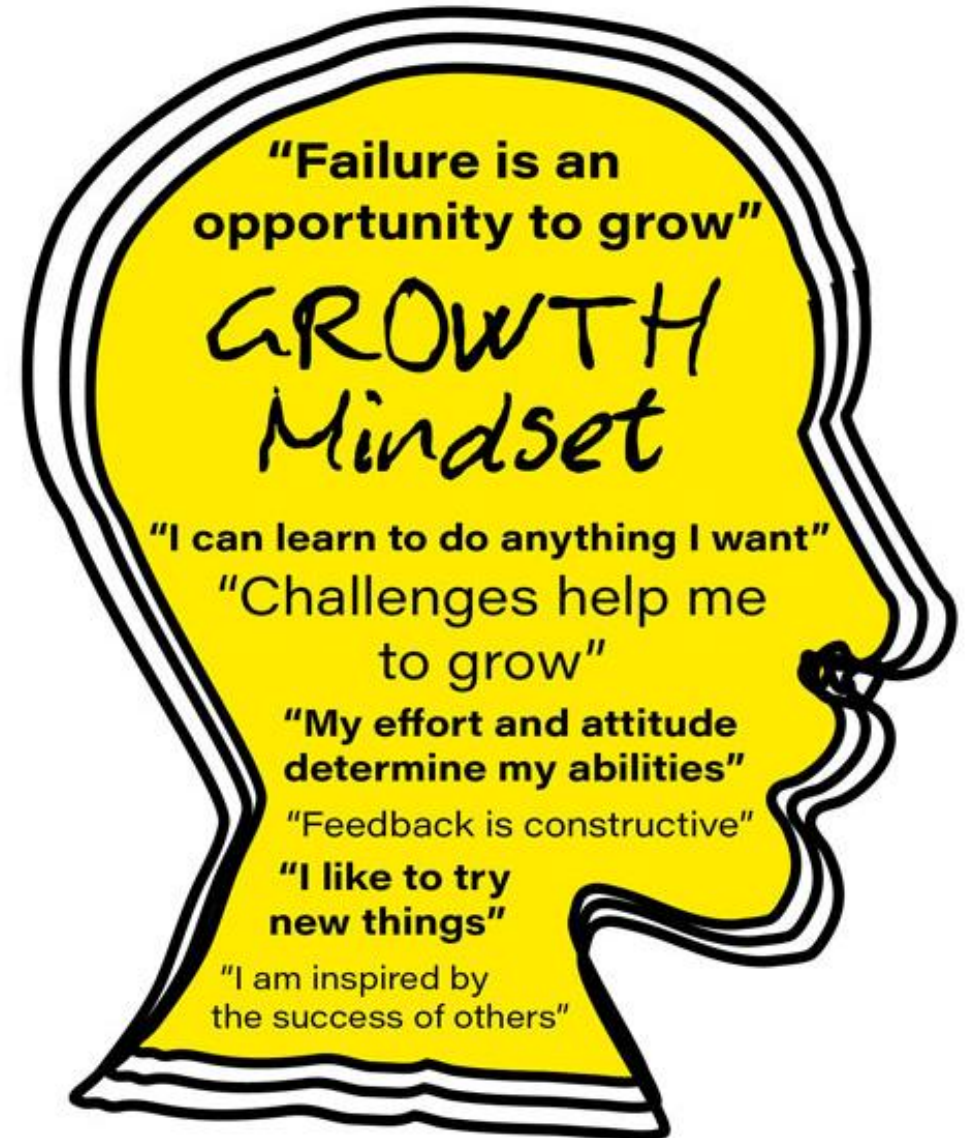
Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Here are some example of questions/activities you can do when reading at home.

Build a growth mindset

All readers make mistakes. It's how we learn.

Encourage a positive growth mindset by praising your child for recognising mistakes, correcting what they said or sounding out and blending words.

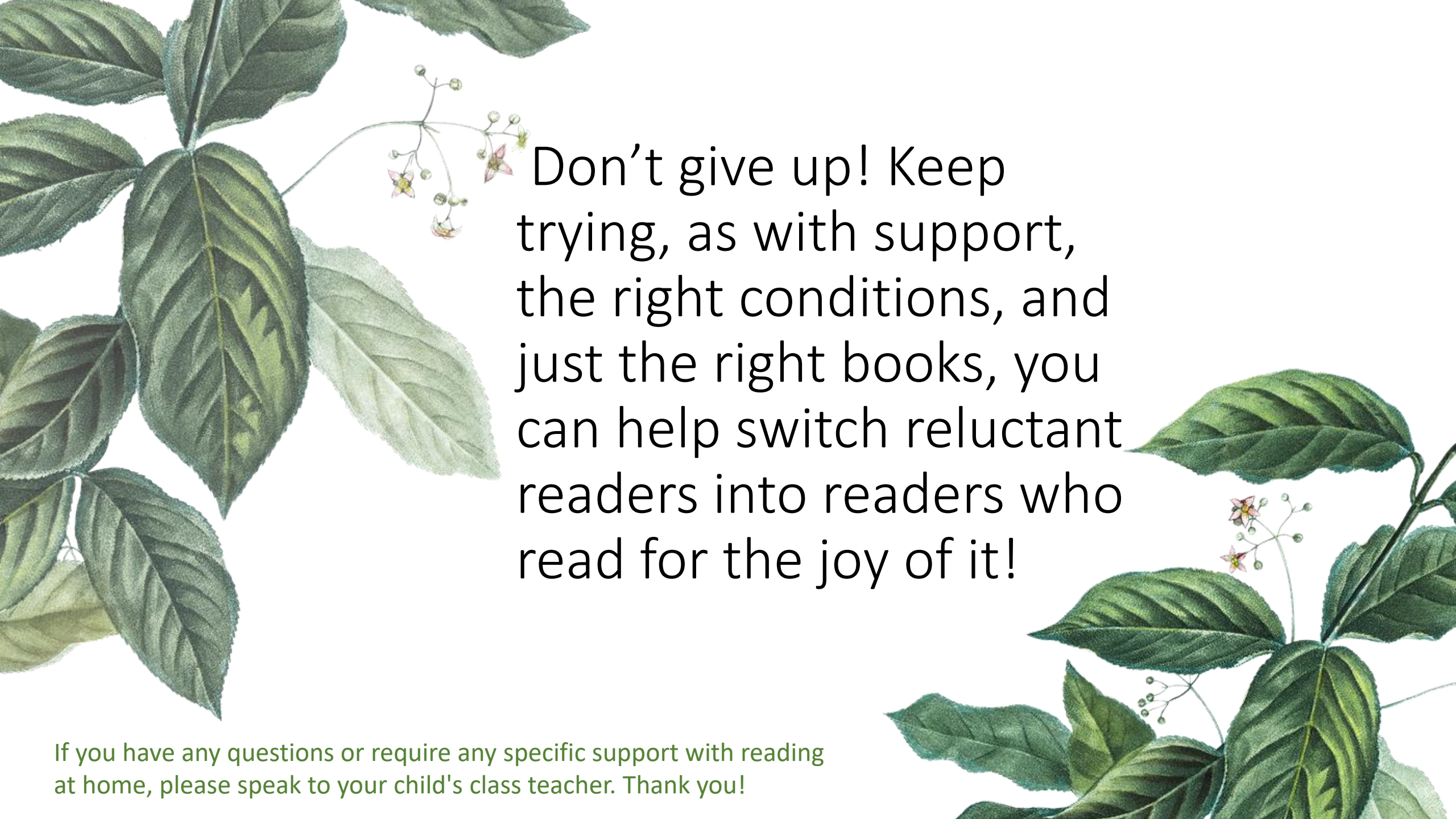


Use technology

Children who find reading dull, may be happy to read the same material on a smart phone or tablet.

We are currently searching for apps/e-books to support reading at home and are open to any suggestions for us to trial 😊



A detailed botanical illustration of a plant with large, dark green, serrated leaves and a cluster of small, light pink flowers with yellow centers. The illustration is positioned in the upper left and lower right corners of the page, framing the central text.

Don't give up! Keep trying, as with support, the right conditions, and just the right books, you can help switch reluctant readers into readers who read for the joy of it!

If you have any questions or require any specific support with reading at home, please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you!