Dear Parents,

Our next topic after half term is Once Upon a Time. Over the half term holiday please could you produce a piece of work that we can display in our classrooms. Ideas include:-

- Pictures in the correct order to tell a story
- Painted picture with labels to describe your character
- Drawing from your favourite story
- A collage of a front cover
- A handwritten story – or just part the beginning, middle or end
- A sentence to say why you enjoyed the story so much
- A junk model of your favourite prince or princess
- A photo of the gingerbread biscuit that you made
- A photo of the Lego castle you made with characters to retell a story

These are just some suggestions, please feel free to be creative!

Don’t forget read lots of Fairy Tales over half term. We will look at story language, Story Mountain and how to retell and act out familiar stories. Chislehurst library would love to welcome new members to their library, following our trips there.

Please can we also take the opportunity to remind you that as part of Reception’s homework is that all children read for at least ten minutes every day – this can be reading their school book, their own books from home or the library or Bug Club – (just to let you know again, all teachers are sent a weekly email to tell them how many of their children have logged onto Bug Club). If you are still having trouble with this, please be kind enough to speak to your class teacher and they will be able to support you.

Next week the Teacher’s focus will be individual reading. We will be looking at lots of different strategies that are being used, our main focus is that your child participates in phonics/reading at school and home every day and a written comment is in their reading record book. Remember if this is appropriate you should be looking at Word Boxes every day as this will support your child’s blending skills. Across the Year Group only two parents have asked for these to be changed. Please do not worry if your class teacher asks to speak with you next week as it will be ideas and strategies to support your child’s reading. Thank you for your support. Please look at their reading contact book and act upon any advice given. Any problems or questions please ask.

Reading is a fundamental skill that is required for your child to achieve the Good Level of Development at the end of the Reception Year. Unfortunately if your child is unable to blend they will not achieve the expected level in Literacy and this could affect other areas of learning too.

Username – first four letters of first and surname no spaces for example Carly Rackstraw would be carlrack

Password – red

School code – 96a7

Thanks for all your support and we wish you a happy half term and are looking forward to next half term which again will be very busy with fantastic opportunities for your child.

Mrs K Rackstraw
Early Years Leader