



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Executive Headteacher
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Dear Parents/Carers

Friday 2nd November 2018

High Frequency Words

We have made a book to help support your child with reading their high frequency words which we will use over the year – the aim is for them to be able to recognise these words and to be able to read them. Children learn these words as part of their Read Write Inc lessons and we will also sending home 7 high frequency words home to read a week. However, it is very important to go with the pace of your child, please let us know at the back of their book how they are doing under parent comments.

High frequency words are common words, words that appear very often in written texts. They are a mixture of **decodable words** (words that can be sounded out) and **tricky / exception words** (words in which the English spelling code works in an unusual or uncommon way, which means the words have to be learned and recognised by sight).

It is really important that children learn how to read these words as they will make up a large proportion of the words they will be reading in everyday texts. They also need to learn to spell these words as they will find they will need to use them a great deal in their writing. (Research has shown that just 16 words, such as 'and', 'he', 'I' and 'in', but also the more phonetically-difficult 'the', 'to', 'you', 'said', 'are', 'she' and 'was', make up a quarter of the words in a piece of writing, whether it's for adults or children.) If you feel your child is ready please do practice writing with them, however the focus at the moment is just to read them. We do not expect the children to write them yet and will tell you when we begin this in school.

The top 100 high frequency words (in order of frequency of use) are: the, and, a, to, said, in, he, I, of, it, was, you, they, on, she, is, for, at, his, but, that, with, all, we, can, are, up, had, my, her, what, there, out, this, have, went, be, like, some, so, not, then, were, go, little, as, no, mum, one, them, do, me, down, dad, big, when, it's, see, looked, very, look, don't, come, will, into, back, from, children, him, Mr, get, just, now, came, oh, about, got, their, people, your, put, could, house, old, too, by, day, made, time, I'm, if, help, Mrs, called, here, off, asked, saw, make, an.

We ask that all books are handed in on a Thursday so that we can add the new set and hand back out on the Friday.

As always please do ask if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,
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