



13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## FAMILY LEARNING PROJECT - DADS AND LADS

Dear Parents/Carers

For several years we have been participating in a project aimed at improving literacy skills for boys in Year Two. Although our boys usually do very well, as national statistics show, girls are still out-performing them. There are many reasons for this but the main ones are to do with boys' slower development of language and the fact that role models for boys are sadly lacking in their early years; all of our teaching and learning staff are female and it seems that it is mothers who most often do home work with our children.

The idea behind this project is that boys and a male adult (it doesn't have to be dad - any adult male relative is very welcome) get involved in a shared interest that they choose together. In the past they have chosen a range of topics such as Porsche cars, fishing, how to build a computer and Birmingham City football club! The main thing is that you pick a topic that you can both have fun with! Then, over the course of the next couple of months, you do some research, go on visits, make models, take photographs etc and produce a scrap book full of the information you have found out about your topic.

The main purpose is having fun, but we hope that by doing reading and writing with a male role model, on a topic that they have chosen themselves, boys will see what a great time you can have at reading and bookmaking. Families who have joined in with this in the past have really enjoyed themselves and we know that it has made a difference to the reading and writing capabilities of the boys.

There will be a first meeting of the new group for this year on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.00pm in Year Two for about half an hour. Please come along with your child to find out more. There will be squash and biscuits and a 'starter pack' for the children to get you going!

We really hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Yours sincerely

Miss N Russell and Miss S Cole

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I will be coming to the meeting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.00pm.

Child's name..... Class.....

Signed.....