London Borough of Havering
ENGAYNE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mrs S Sankey: Headteacher
01708 223492

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to inform you that we now have two therapy dogs which will be visiting our school on a weekly basis. The dogs are both registered as Therapy dogs and have been trained accordingly.

The dogs will be accompanied by their owners and a member of staff and this programme is designed to give pupils opportunities to increase their confidence of, and enjoyment in reading. In addition to this we hope to run a well-being session for children also with our therapy dogs.

Our previous Read 2 Dogs sessions have been met with very positive feedback from the children who attended. These sessions have shown a positive impact on the children's confidence in reading.

Children will be selected by their class teachers to engage with this programme and will have a weekly 10 minute session under the close supervision of the therapy dog's owner and a member of the school staff. These dogs are specially registered dogs who normally visit in hospitals, hospices, care homes etc. They will remain on the lead and under control at all times. A member of school staff will lead the sessions and will be present throughout.

Reading with a therapy dog gives children an opportunity to practise and enjoy reading, away from their peers, to an audience that will enjoy the experience as much as your child does. This will be a special time for your child as they read their chosen book to the therapy dog.

Please could you complete the opt out option on sQuid if you **DO NOT** wish your child to be part of this programme.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Grassick