

Approach to Reading

Our children love books and we have a fantastic school library to support the children in independent choice of books to share and read, together with collections of books related to topics that help to inspire the children with their learning in class.

Each class also has its own class library and we have a selection of eBooks available via a link in the classes section of this website. Books everywhere!



Please read on to find more about our approach to reading...

In our Reception Class, projects are inspired by stories; stories are at the centre of the curriculum. The same is true for some topics in the rest of the school, the story creating a link across most areas of learning. Frequently texts of all kinds are a springboard for literacy sessions.

The teaching of phonics and high frequency words (please see separate link under 'Curriculum' for further information) underpins the beginning of individual reading in Reception. Our first individual reading books are in levels and include books from different schemes, including Oxford Reading Tree, Storyworld and Read, Write Inc. Children move on from these to free reading as soon as they are able to, usually in Year 2 or 3, but sometimes in Year 1. We welcome volunteers who would like to hear children read individually (subject to the usual checks), and are lucky to have many who enjoy doing so.

Alongside individual reading, from Year 1 children read in groups in guided reading sessions. At the earlier stages, this will involve reading the text aloud with an adult and discussing it alongside. Later on, the children read the text to themselves, then discuss it with an adult. We also sometimes use 'reciprocal reading', where a group of children organise themselves to read and discuss texts together!

A highlight of school life are our 'Story Cafes', when a book is shared with children and someone related to them (eg. parents/carers, grandparents), followed by an activity that they can complete together. Recently Dads were invited and spent some time decorating pictures of underpants with their children, whilst eating bacon butties!

How to support your child with reading...

- Read yourself, so that your child sees that you read for enjoyment, or for another purpose.
- Read to your child- even when they can read themselves- and talk about what you have read; include a range of texts- both fiction and non-fiction and both popular and classic texts.
- Hear your child read and talk about what they have read'
- Help your child to learn their sounds (please see separate link under 'Curriculum' for further information).
- Make books a special treat or a special present.
- Join your local library and visit there with your child.
- Read some eBooks from our website link (under 'Classes').