

“Evidence suggests that there is a positive relationship between reading frequency, reading enjoyment and attainment.”

Education Research Standards Team

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

Margaret Fuller

Year 1 Reading Workshop

Why is reading important?

- ▶ Reading is important to support children in all areas of future life.
- ▶ Reading well will support children to write and develop their literacy skills further.
- ▶ Reading regularly and being read to by an adult support to develop speech and communication skills.
- ▶ Reading a variety of books encourages the development of a wide and varied vocabulary.
- ▶ Reading supports the development of concentration and critical thinking abilities.
- ▶ Reading broadens children understanding and experience of the world around them.
- ▶ Reading supports the development of imagination and creativity.

What are we doing in school?

- ▶ In year 1, children engage with a reading activity every day.
- ▶ Year 1 participate in daily supported reading (DSR) which allows all children to engage with a quality read with an adult for 30 minutes three times a week.
- ▶ Adults in school use questioning to develop children's understanding of texts and their analytical skills. This also supports children to think critically and to develop a deeper understanding of what they are reading.
- ▶ Teachers read to the children at home time. The texts that we read are age appropriate, but also have different vocabulary and words. Teachers read with expression and question as they read.
- ▶ To support children with decoding words, year 1 teach phonics every day. In year 1 we teach phase 3, 4 and 5.
- ▶ Teachers do a shared read with the children at least 3 times a week. This is as a whole class, and uses the same comprehension and reading strategies as guided reading.

Strategies used to support

- ▶ When we read with children, we use a mixture of strategies to support children. These are:
 - Look at the first letter, make the sound, cross check with the picture.
 - Look at the letters, make the sounds, blend the sounds together.
 - Chop the word into little chunks and then put it back together.
 - Look for little words in big words.
 - If the sentence doesn't make sense, read it again.
 - If the sentence still doesn't make sense, read the sentence before, read the sentence after, then read the sentence again.
 - Look at the punctuation.

Developing comprehension

- ▶ When we talk about reading, it is essential that we remember children's ability to understand a text, as well as decode the words.
- ▶ Through targeted questions, we ensure that children's comprehension is developed at the same speed as reading ability.
- ▶ Children are asked to retell the story using time words. These are words such as first, next, after that, then and finally. Children are encouraged to retell in detail.
- ▶ Adults always ask a literal question - this requires recalling abilities. We might ask children to put their finger under words.
- ▶ Inferential questions are also asked. This ascertains children's understanding of the subtext in the book.
- ▶ We also ask questions that will support children to link the text to their personal experiences. This makes the children more invested in the reading, and helps them empathise with the characters in the story.

What can you do at home?

- ▶ When children read a text, ask lots of questions about different pieces of the story. Can they retell? Can they understand how the characters are feeling and what their motivations are?
- ▶ It is important that your child reads to you, and that you read to your child. Children enjoy hearing adults read to them, and it will develop their understanding of different genres and vocabulary.
- ▶ When children struggle to read a word, encourage them to use their strategies. As we teach phonics in school, encouraging phonetic sounds would support the children.

Our new reading scheme

- ▶ We are hoping to encourage children to enjoy reading, and to make it into a pleasurable experience.
- ▶ Children will be reading their reading levels to their adult.
- ▶ We want to make this a time that children look forward to, and share their reading achievements with their parents.
- ▶ Parents are encouraged to ask questions of their children, and to ask questions of the teacher about reading.

Thank you for listening, are there any questions?