

# Reading

## St Peter's C.E. Primary School

*'Let Your Light Shine'*

*Matthew 5:16*

Reading widely and often is of huge importance in ensuring that our children develop key life skills and confidence to help them now and for life beyond St Peter's.

At St Peter's we aim to develop pupils' abilities, knowledge and skills through our integrated 'Text-Based approach'. This involves 'Speaking and Listening', 'Reading and Writing', 'Vocabulary development' and Cross Curricular opportunities driven by high engaging and quality core texts. The text-based approach encompasses modern and classic, poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts, including texts that are values-centred supporting our Christian ethos. Visual stimuli are used to support a variety of writing outcomes outlining the task, purpose and audience. Our approach which supports age related targets and genre expectations, scaffolds children and supports teachers in their planning and teaching. Children are given opportunities to interrelate the requirements of English within a broad and balanced approach to the teaching of English across the curriculum with opportunities to consolidate and reinforce taught literacy skills.

### Reading in EYFS and Key Stage 1

During the EYFS and KS1, pupils will increase their fluency by learning to read words easily and automatically; this includes words which use common graphemes in addition to the common exception words. They will learn to retell familiar stories in addition to listening to and discussing a wide range of stories, poems, plays and information books. In KS1, children are able to select their own reading book from their phased box. To support parental involvement, we hold workshops and reading breakfasts to enable parents to understand reading and phonic strategies.

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the children learn to read using, 'Phonics Bug', which links the text to Phonic phases. At St Peter's, we aim to make the teaching of synthetic phonics a lot of fun. We have decided to use Phonics Bug as we believe it has everything we need to set all of our pupils on the path to a lifelong love of reading. All reading books for both guided reading sessions and home reading follow system linked to the phonic phases which helps children progress through their reading skills. We have a mix of reading books for fiction and non-fiction from a range of publishers including, Oxford Reading Tree, Songbirds, Pearson's Phonic Bug, Collins and Rigby Rising Stars.

## Phonics

In EYFS and Key Stage 1 each child takes part in a daily phonics lesson of at least 20 minutes. By the end of EYFS each child is expected to have achieved Phase 4; by the end of Year 1 each child is expected to have achieved Phase 5; by the end of Year 2 each child is expected to have achieved Phase 6. Phonics sessions are interactive and fun!

Skilled word reading involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Underpinning both is the understanding that the letters on the page represent the sounds in the spoken words. This is why phonics is emphasised in the early teaching of reading to beginners when they start school. We also encourage children to practise reading and spelling through our English app, Doodle.

## Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, we continue to build on the skills taught and emphasise pupils' enjoyment and understanding of language, especially vocabulary, to support their reading. Pupils' knowledge of language, gained from stories, plays, poetry, non-fiction and textbooks, will support their increasing fluency as readers.

In each classroom at St Peter's, there are a wide range of guided reading books, class novels and reading areas full of books to promote pleasure for reading. Our guided reading follows age-appropriate quality texts, full of rich language which challenges the children; this whole class text approach is a structure produced by Pearson 'Active Learn' which uses a mastery approach to the teaching of reading. At St Peter's, we strongly believe in the power of reading journals through the workbooks linked to the half-termly text. These books are used daily as an important part of children's language development and responses to their reading meeting the needs of our learners. Our home reading books are matched to the child's reading skills and support them in striving for age-related expectations through the colour banded system. These books are supported by 'Active Learn' (Pearson) through E-books which are accessed in school and supporting home learning. This fantastic resource supports children through quality texts, appropriate to the child's learning and builds on skills that have been taught in school.

Through our text-based approach, the class novel, at times, links to the over-arching topic although this is not the key reason for selecting a novel. We constantly strive to promote pleasure for reading, to ensure that children develop a passion and love for reading; this time within the classroom to read aloud a class novel for pleasure is paramount at St Peter's.