



Reading and Phonics

Intent

At Wren Park our vision for Reading and Phonics is:

At Wren Park we aim to make every child a reader. We want children to be able to read, understand and interpret any text. We are committed to instill a love and enthusiasm for reading for pleasure in every child. We want to provide children with the opportunity to explore the world around them and widen their experience and imagination through reading. Through reading, children are able to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually and socially.

From the early steps of learning phonics - the sounds made by individual letters and groups of letters, to reading whole words and sentences and to reading paragraphs and whole books, all children will be taught the skills to read and understand the books of their choice.

Our aim in phonics, is to develop children's skills of listening, speaking, word reading and writing through teaching them phonetic knowledge and the skills of segmenting and blending, to decode words. This will enable them to become confident, independent, fluent readers which will greatly assist their comprehension skills. Phonics is the key to understanding spoken language and early reading, as it allows children to unlock their potential as independent learners and it opens the door to endless literature. In many areas of the curriculum, opportunities are used to inspire children to apply the skills they have learnt in phonics, as well as develop a love of reading and broaden their oral and written vocabulary.

We aim to provide a language rich environment across all year groups. Continually introducing and developing children's vocabulary to develop themselves as communicators who are able to read, write and speak in a variety of ways. We believe that developing these early skills will enable the children to articulate themselves, be successful and confident both within the primary curriculum

Implementation

We translate this into practice by:

At Wren Park, we use a validated systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) teaching programme called Bug Club Phonics. Bug Club Phonics mostly follows the Letters and Sounds (2007) teaching progression, starting with sounds satpin in Phase 2, following onto Phase 3, 4 and 5 with alternative sounds. The children have daily phonics lessons for 25 minutes in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

The children are given a decodable reading book that is matched to their phonics knowledge, which also reflects the sequence of sounds taught in school. Decodable books, are books that contain either decodable or common exception words. Common exception words (or tricky words) are taught during phonics lessons to help increase children's vocabulary and prepare them for when they come across these common words e.g. the, I, go, to.

Children are exposed to high quality texts across the curriculum and reading skills are taught explicitly through VIPER lessons and shared reading sessions. These sessions allow staff to expose children to varied texts from a range of genres and time periods. Children are taught how to decode tricky vocabulary and meaning, retrieve, interpret and analyse an author's choice.

In Key Stage 2, we use a computer-adaptive reading test called Star Reading to assess children's reading ability and to determine their recommended reading range for Accelerated Reader (AR). AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Children freely pick a book at their own reading range and read it at their own pace. When finished, children take a short quiz on the computer - passing the quiz is an indication that your child has understood what has been read.

Impact

We know this works for our pupils through:

Our children will be competent readers by the time they leave our school at the end of Year 6.

The impact of Reading success in our school is measured through the following:

- Children will enjoy reading across a range of genres and have a love of books.
- Children will recommend books to their peers and participate in discussions about books with interest.
- Children will have enhanced their knowledge and wider understanding of all subjects across the curriculum.
- Children of all abilities will be ambitious, resilient and succeed in all reading lessons.
- Children will use a range of strategies for decoding words and not solely relying on phonics.
- Children will have a good knowledge of a range of authors.
- Children will be ready to read in any subject in their forthcoming secondary education.
- Parents and carers will have a good understanding of how they can support reading at home and contribute regularly to home-school records.
- Use of questionnaires and pupil voice.

Teachers will use formative and summative assessments to measure progress. Statutory assessment will be used in:

- Year 1(Phonics Screening Check)
- Year 2(End of KS1 SATs)
- Year 6 (end of KS2 SATs)

and in their future lives. By being exposed to high quality, rich texts (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) both modern and classic, children will be given the tools and skills needed to become successful readers (and writers). At Wren Park Primary School, we recognise that reading skills need to be taught and that every teacher is accountable for the progress in reading for the children in their class. We aim to: • Teach reading skills on a daily basis either through the curriculum or discrete lessons • Provide a language rich environment that promotes a culture of reading • Develop in children a love of books by exposing them to a wide variety of quality books • Identify children who require additional support and intervene at an early stage	While we continue to teach the skills of reading in class through VIPERS, the AR books chosen by your child will provide them with the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills they have developed. Children using AR are encouraged to progress at their own pace and they have personalised targets based on their reading ability. The aim of AR is for all children is to develop their comprehension skills but mostly we want the children to develop a love of reading. Reading skills are developed through: • Shared reading • Whole class reading VIPERS lessons • Standalone reading skills lessons • Performance reading • Individual reading • Independent reading at home and at school Wren Park provide a variety of enrichment activities throughout the year to instil a love of reading, including: • School library • Quality diverse texts • Book fairs • Partnership with local library • World book Day/Week activities • Theatre trips • Author visits • Performance storytellers • Opportunities to read to others in the community • Performance reading with an audience • Reading in the wider curriculum • Wren Reading Challenges • Reading incentives	
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