



Reading Curriculum Overview

Our curriculum includes many common aspects and themes that are woven through all year groups and across all subjects:

- It is broadly topic based
- The curriculum allows the children to relate their learning and skills to our school values of appreciation, compassion, love, perseverance, respect and trust and live their lives by them.
- Children are encouraged to learn from first hand experiences and exploration, which is built upon to learn about increasingly less familiar and more abstract ideas, concepts and places.
- Life skills are progressively taught and embedded which children can transfer to the next phase of their education, and in time to the wider world of work and the outside world
- The school grounds and immediate locality are made good use of for learning, where possible, and the children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding of Reading's place in national and international affairs, in addition to its place in the Thames Valley.

Intent

Reading is currently a key focus at our school, as success in reading unlocks success in all areas of the curriculum. 2009 PISA results show that children who reading more regularly aged 10 are more likely to achieve higher results at GCSE. We therefore strive to promote a love of reading across all year groups throughout the school. We aim for all children to achieve the following:

- To be fluent readers with good comprehension of the text they are reading.
- To develop a love of reading for pleasure.
- To choose books as a means of knowledge acquisition.
- To develop a broad and varied vocabulary which they can use in their written and spoken communication.
- To broaden their understanding of syntax and grammar conventions.

Implementation

To develop the love of reading, all classes across the school have a dedicated time that the teacher reads to their class. This is an aspirational and challenging text for the children to enjoy, where the teacher models good reading. The simple view of reading shows that children can understand and engage in a text that they would struggle to de-code and grow their love and engagement of reading as a result.

Whole class guided reading is taught across the school for all children who have completed the phonics program. Books are chosen are age appropriate to allow for independence in reading across the school. Care is taken to select a variety of authors and authors from different ethnic

backgrounds to reflect the diversity within the school. We also try and vary protagonists so that books are not always based around a white male.

For those embarking on guided reading a range of texts, pictures and videos will be used to teach the key skills:

- Retrieval of information.
- Interpretation and inference of the text (this can include predictions).
- Choice – explaining our response to a text based on our own experiences and opinions.

These will continue through the use of extracts from books (exposing children to wider reading opportunities they want to engage in) up to reading whole texts ensuring challenge throughout.

Each week every class will undertake a reading lesson focussed on wider vocabulary and understanding words in context to support an important life skill.

We will use books more widely in the broader curriculum to knowledge acquisition. This be based on children reading all or part of a text and delivering presentations on what they have read back to their peers and being ambassadors for learning within the classroom.

Impact

By choosing a wide range of picture, fiction and non-fiction books that are age appropriate and engaging, children will grow in both their love of reading. This will increase vocabulary in all areas of learning, improve writing and underpin the improvements to learning across the school.