

Early Reading

Intent

At St George's we are privileged to teach our children to read. We know that reading not only holds the key to children accessing the rest of the curriculum but also has a huge impact on children's self-esteem and future life chances. We strive for all of our children to become confident independent readers with an excellent understanding of what they read. We balance the process of learning to read with developing a love of books and reading.

Implementation

- To allow our children to develop a strong phonic awareness and effective blending and decoding skills, we have chosen to use the principles of Letters and Sounds whilst creatively planning phonics lessons to suit all of our children's needs
- Children from Nursery to Year 2 are taught phonics in a high quality daily planned session.
- Nursery book library
- Children from Reception onwards have an individual reading book to read both at home and at school. Children read to the class teacher at least once a week with identified children reading more frequently to another adult in school.
- We make sure that pupils read books that are closely matched to their increasing knowledge of phonics and ability to read 'tricky words'; so they experience early reading success and gain confidence that they are readers, as well as consolidating the learning that takes place in school.
- Children from Spring Term Year Two onwards have a taught whole class guided reading lesson each week. Children are taught to recognise our St George's dragon VIPER characters to help them to answer questions and analyse texts.
- Every class has a book read by the class teacher. This is for the pure enjoyment of listening to a story.
- Every class has its own reading corner. These are calm areas where the books are the stimulus. Books previously read by the teacher are available.
- Nursery children choose a book with their parent / carer to take home as often as they wish. Children from Reception onwards visit the school library frequently to choose a book.
- All children at St George's have a 'Reading Buddy'. Children from another class visit each other frequently to listen to or read a story. This not only strengthens reading skills but also creates friendships across the whole school.

Impact

The impact of the reading emphasis and teaching at St. George's will be...

- Fluent and confident word readers by the end of KS1
- Y1 Phonic Screening Check pass rate is above the National average.
- High levels of comprehension and vocabulary development
- High levels of engagement in the books children read
- A fostering of reading for pleasure

We firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of the statutory assessments.