

PHONICS AND READING

We are very proud of our children's phonic outcomes by the end of Year One.

91% of our children reached the expected standard in the Phonics Screening in 2015.

Phonics is taught in a highly structured programme of daily lessons across Foundation Stage and Key Stage One in groups differentiated according to children's phonic awareness and abilities. The Letters and Sounds programme is followed providing a synthetic approach to the teaching of phonics. We follow the Phonics Bug programme by Pearson Education Limited. Phonics Bug is a specialist synthetic phonic programme that is part of the Bug Club family and perfectly complements the Bug Club books and eBooks that we also use as part of our reading scheme in school. This phonics programme is also supplemented by, The Sound Linkage Programme by Peter Hatcher and individual differentiated teaching activities to support the learning of GPCs.

All our Reception and KS1 teachers and teaching assistants are trained on how to deliver effective, engaging phonics sessions that help children progress through phonic stages.

We regularly run parent workshops. They are well attended and focus on:

- How we teach phonics in school
- How to help children read fluently
- How to ask a range of questions to encourage children to comprehend what they have read

Children in Reception and KS1 have the opportunity to select a reading book to take home on a daily basis. We have a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry books that are closely matched to the children's developing phonic knowledge and ability to read common exception words. Our reading scheme is banded from ☺(wordless picture books) to band 14. This provides a carefully graded progression of books. This progression gives children plenty of opportunity to develop their reading skills to read independently and to read for meaning. Children are assessed regularly and moved on to the next book band when their fluency and comprehension show they are ready. Children continue to move through the book bands throughout KS2 until they reach the required standard to become a free reader; choosing a book from our well stocked library. Banded books are predominately sourced from Bug Club, Oxford Reading Tree, Nelson Thorne and Usbourne.

In addition to taking home a banded book, all children have a Bug Club log in so they can access, via the internet, hundreds of ebooks and comics from some of the best children's authors and illustrators featuring well-loved characters from picture books and TV. On a weekly basis children visit the school library and take home a book to share with an adult to encourage a love of reading for pleasure.