



Reading in Stanwick School

Synthetic Phonics

On entry to school, children are taught to read through a systematic synthetic phonics approach predominantly using Letters and Sounds. Children are taught to link letters to sounds and then blend these phonemes to read simple words, moving onto more complex words and sentences.

In year 1 the children undertake the national Phonics Screening Test in order to assess their decoding of words. If they do not achieve the expected level in June of Year 1, they will be retested the following year. Those who do not pass will receive additional support in order to develop their phonemic awareness.

Guided Reading

Throughout the school, children will be taught reading skills at sound, word, text and whole book level through carefully structured and planned guided sessions. Every child will be in a guided group at least once a week from Year 1 – Year 6 and in Yf when appropriate.

Individual Reading

Teachers, teaching assistants and parents will hear children read individually as frequently as feasible. These opportunities will consolidate learning covered in the guided sessions.

Reading Comprehension

Children will be asked questions to develop their understanding of what is happening in stories, how words are used in poetry, why things happens, where to find information etc. As they progress through the school, their responses will increase in depth and understanding.

Reading Partnerships

Parents are positively encouraged to listen to and support their children reading at home by finding a quiet time to share and enjoy a range of books and so developing children's enjoyment of reading. A working party of parents have also been pivotal in re-organising the library so it can be used to maximum effect.

Stay and Share Weekly sessions for parents to come in and share a book with their children occur in YF and Y1. These sessions are looked forward to by all who participate. If parents cannot come in, children share books with members of staff.

Reading Schemes Children begin reading synthetic phonic based reading books from the Dandelion and Floppy Phonics series where they are encouraged to read words based on the stages in phonic development in Letters and sounds. Tricky words are introduced to enable children to read short phrases and sentences. As they complete Phase 5 Phonics, the children are ready to move onto the Banded Book levels which encompass a range of published series of books. When they become fluent readers they are able to choose age appropriate books from the library. These are books of different genre [fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, graphic novels...], by a variety of authors and can be changed as frequently as the children require.

Enjoyment of Reading In order to engage children in and increase their enjoyment of reading, children from all classes are encouraged to recommend authors, books and types of writing to friends and peers by taking part in Author of the Term and Reading Review competition activities. They also create displays for the library to promote these. Buddies also share books with one another and librarians are being trained to keep the library organised.