

Reading



The ability to read well is a vital skill. At St. Mary's we place a strong emphasis on the teaching of reading. We believe that children should encounter an environment in which they are surrounded by books and other reading material presented in an attractive and inviting way. To teach reading we use a structured reading scheme and alongside this we encourage the children to take books home to read with their parents. Children may choose additional reading books from the well-resourced class bookshelves. We teach reading through both individual and guided group reading. In addition, we also offer reading support for those children who find reading challenging. Some children may participate in intervention groups to enable them to catch up.



We use a various number of reading schemes throughout the school and all books are book banded into levels. Children use these schemes of work to read both at school and home. This is then supplemented by a range of reading materials including novels and articles throughout KS2. The following schemes are used within school:

- Oxford Reading Tree
- Light House
- Rigby Star
- Project X

Assessment

- Reading is assessed termly through statements (in Reception) and more formal Reading Comprehension (in Years 1 -6). These assessments inform the on-going teacher assessment completed through weekly guided reading sessions.
- Reading is also assessed in Year 2 and Year 6 through the statutory SATs.

Phonics



Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au

- Early reading is taught at St Mary's CE Primary School, using synthetic phonics as the main approach. Pupils are systematically taught the phonemes (sounds), how to blend the sounds all through the word for reading, and how to segment the sounds in order to write words. They are taught to use their phonic skills and knowledge as their first approach to reading, but are also taught high frequency, 'tricky' words which do not completely follow the phonic rules.
- Phonics lessons are undertaken daily and children are situated within 'Phase' appropriate groups with extra intervention groups taking place for those who need a little extra help. The school follows the government published programme "Letters and Sounds" and use Jolly Phonics in the early phases to support teaching.
- For a detailed explanation of the various phonics phases please visit:
<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/what-is-letters-and-sounds.html>
- We also use interactive resources which supports us in providing a multi-sensory approach to learning phonics and enhances the children's learning. For more information about how to say letters using the synthetic model visit:
<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/what-is-letters-and-sounds.html>
Here you will find a video of how to pronounce the phonemes (sounds).