

St. Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School



St Paschal Baylon
Catholic Primary School



Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

Reading

Reading at St Paschal Baylon

Intent

At St Paschal Baylon School, we believe that reading is a fundamental life skill that can enhance a child's life forever. We place huge emphasis on the importance of reading and on making it a fun and enjoyable experience. Our aim is to instil a love for reading in all children by encouraging them to read widely and be exposed to a variety of genres. Reading across all subjects within the curriculum will further develop children's fluency and allow them to become both independent and reflective readers.

Speaking and listening is prioritised in order to build vocabulary for all learners, ensuring that they can access and understand more complex texts. We provide rich, meaningful discussions around texts, where all children feel confident and able to contribute.

Implementation

Phonics

Both word recognition and language comprehension are necessary to achieve fluent reading, however, these cannot be taught alone. Therefore, a coherent and systematic phonics scheme is taught daily. The scheme we use to deliver this is called Read, Write, Inc. All children in EYFS, KSI and any child in KS2 with significant gaps in phonic knowledge are grouped to ensure that they receive the most effective level of support and challenge. All staff delivering phonics lessons have received high quality training in teaching phonics and regularly have the opportunity to develop their skills, through coaching and practice sessions. This also ensures consistency across and within groups.

Children are assessed half termly, using Read Write Inc assessments and are regrouped accordingly. Any children who are identified as making slower progress will then receive extra one to one or small group tuition.

At the beginning of the phonics programme, in EYFS, children will take home wordless books to share with their families. They will also be given access to virtual classroom films regularly to support the sounds that have been taught in school. As children progress to Ditty group, they will then take home a ditty a day to read. This will be the same ditty that has been read during that day's phonics lesson. From red group onwards, children will take home the focus text and an unseen book bag book every 3 or 5 days, dependant on the group they are in. Children will also be given regular access to appropriate virtual classroom films so that they can continue to practise at home.

When KSI pupils have completed the phonics programme and are secure word level readers, reading is then developed through the Read Write Inc Comprehension programme. The aim of this is to develop children's reading fluency, comprehension of and response to fiction and non-fiction texts. It also aims to improve writing by developing vocabulary grammar and spelling. KS2 children, who complete the programme, will return to English lessons alongside their peers. They will be given extra support, where necessary, in order to be able to access the curriculum successfully.

Shared Reading

In KS2, all aspects of word reading and comprehension skills are taught through a sequential scheme called 'Steps to Read.' This scheme provides a clear teaching sequence to reading sessions that explicitly teach reading

skills and strategies in a cumulative way, through evidence-based approaches. Children are exposed to a wide range of high-quality fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts and they are provided with the skills and strategies needed to be a proficient and confident reader.

Steps to Read sessions are taught at least 4 times a week and they involve a mixture of whole class shared reading, small group guided reading and paired work. The texts explored during lessons are also available for children to access during reading for pleasure opportunities.

In KS2, children take home reading books matched to their ability from Oxford Reading Tree. These books are changed weekly and children will be moved through the book bands as and when appropriate to do so. Once children have completed the book bands, they are then allowed to select their own text and engage in weekly discussions with their teacher about what they are reading.

Talk Through Stories

In EYFS and Year 1, teachers use 'Talk Through Stories' which is a Read Write Inc strategy for developing vocabulary, in order to support children in understanding the books that they will be able to read for themselves. This is used as an addition to phonics lessons but supports the teaching within English lessons. Books are selected to match the genres and topics being covered within EYFS and Year One.

Reading for Pleasure

At St Paschal Baylon, we recognise the importance of reading for enjoyment. There are regular opportunities provided for children to read for pleasure, including: quiet reading time, shared class novels, story and snack time (EYFS and KS1), whole school celebrations (World Book Day, Liverpool Children's Festival of Reading) and also during curriculum lessons. Our reading spine highlights the core and suggested texts that children have access to each year. Opportunities are provided for children to enjoy these texts and also to recommend them to their peers.

Impact

Through the teaching of systematic phonics, our aim is for children to become fluent and confident word readers by the end of KS1. As a Year 6 reader, transitioning into secondary school, we aspire that children are fluent, confident and able readers, who can access a range of texts for pleasure and enjoyment, as well as use their reading skills to unlock learning in all areas of the curriculum.

Attainment in reading is measured using statutory assessments at the end of EYFS, KS1 and KS2 and following the outcomes in the Year 1 Phonics Screening check. Additionally, we track our own reading attainment through the use of RWI half termly assessments, NFER reading assessments and ongoing teacher assessment.

We strive to ensure that our children's attainment is in line or exceeds their potential when we consider their individual starting points; however, we firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of statutory assessments. We hope that when children leave St Paschal Baylon, they possess the reading skills and love of literature which helps them to access and enjoy a successful future.