

## Teaching Children to Read at Chipping Hill Primary School



When children start school we aim to build on the positive experiences that they will have had at home and in pre-school settings by immersing them in the wonderful world of good quality children's literature.

Children have the opportunity to listen to and join in with stories, rhymes and poetry. Through their phonics teaching they will read and recognise phonemes in words and apply them when looking at books. They will begin to build up a basic sight vocabulary of hard to read and spell words.

Our reading books are structured and colour-coded to ensure children are able to select from a range of suitable materials, which meet their reading development and needs. We have a library of Essential Letters and Sounds reading books for the children to read books which matches their phonics ability, in line with the teaching of phonics through Essential Letters and Sounds.

Books are introduced in the Foundation Stage which will have wonderful illustrations for children to talk about and make up their own stories. When ready, books with simple story structures will be introduced. As children become more confident readers, books will become more challenging to ensure progress is rapid.

We use Essential Letters and Sounds books, which support phonics teaching and build a secure sight vocabulary. By Year 2 many of our children are such confident readers that they are able to choose freely from a range of fiction and non-fiction books. At this stage they are encouraged to read several books by the same author which supports them in making informed choices and develop preferences for particular styles of books and this will continue across all age-groups.

We encourage children to develop a life-long love of books and reading. Being a successful reader underpins all areas of learning so the children are expected to read in all lessons. In Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 they will also read their books at school to an adult every week and this forms part of the assessment process. For those children who experience difficulties, an intervention of daily reading will be set up. As the children progress through the school they will have many opportunities during the school day for silent reading.

Our home-school agreement and homework policy outlines the expectation that children will also read every night at home. This partnership is instrumental in supporting children with reading. We also use the reading programme PAIR (Parent Assisted Immersive Reading) which helps parents to learn how to discuss books and develop questioning skills effectively. The 'Keep on Reading' scheme is also deployed to Year 4, where parents are expected to continue reading at home with their children and texts are discussed in detail at school. Guided reading sessions allow the teacher to discuss books in greater depth and gives opportunities to assess children's comprehension and reading skills. We have a well-stocked library which the children enjoying visiting weekly, choosing a book to take home to share.