

Bullion Lane Primary School – Reading Strategy

At Bullion Lane, we use the Read Write Inc programme to teach phonics. This is taught from Nursery and the skills the children learn through this programme help them to decode more complex words until they become confident, independent readers. As all children are individuals and have different learning styles different approaches within individual classes may be used if necessary. Having a consistent approach to the teaching of phonics is having a dramatic, positive impact in raising standards in reading and writing.

Phonics in EYFS and KS1 is monitored carefully so that teachers know exactly which sounds children know and which they are to move onto next. Support staff in KS2 use intervention group time to support children who haven't completed the phonics programme.

Comprehension lessons and Lexia help to move children on in their learning. Termly comprehension assessments allow staff to see where gaps in knowledge are and which skills need more focus.

We have a wide selection of books to help children to learn to read. These include books from Read Write Inc, Oxford Reading Tree, as well as popular children's literature, many of which are chosen by the children themselves.

At the beginning of each term, the children from Year 2 upwards are given the Hertfordshire Reading Test which gives a reading age and the appropriate colour band for their reading book.

Children in Year six are part of the Accelerated Reader Programme which is proving to be a huge success particularly for reluctant readers.

Every morning, when the children come into school, class teachers hear the lowest 20% of the class read individually. Throughout the week, the rest of the children are heard both individually and in groups.

Teachers have a reading folder where records of the books the children are reading are kept. Children also have their own reading records which are taken to and from school.

Our English subject leader has created leaflets for parents about the different aspects of reading, these are on the school website.

'Reader of the Week' certificates and stickers are given out in Celebration assembly to emphasise the importance of reading.

Our school library is constantly updated with new and diverse books. In addition to popular fiction, we have a range of books covering different genders, disabilities, race and emotional issues. Our library timetable ensures that children are encouraged to use the library and take books home that are of pure interest and enjoyment.

At Bullion Lane Primary School, reading is pivotal to all aspects of learning. We have a vibrant, interactive and enthusiastic approach to reading throughout the school. We encourage reading in a variety of different and engaging ways. We have a reading shed in the school garden, reading trollies for playtime, a 'Secret Library,' book exchange, regular competitions related to books and authors. A monthly reading club newsletter goes out to parent each month. Weekly updates related to new stories or authors are shared with the parents on the school dojo. We had an Advent book calendar at Christmas where children won books each day.

We are constantly striving to find new and different ideas to keep the love of reading alive throughout the school.