

Reading at Burston and Tivetshall schools

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.

The more you learn, the more places you'll go."

Dr Seuss

The ability to read and write well is a vital life skill for all children. In our schools, children are provided with opportunities to learn and develop the skills they need to read fluently, with understanding and for pleasure from reception through to year 6 in engaging and enjoyable ways.

Decoding and Fluency:

Reading consists of 2 main aspects: word reading (decoding and fluency) and comprehension. Word reading involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the recognition of familiar printed words. Underlying both is the understanding that the letters on the page represent the sounds in spoken words.

Pupils are taught to decode and develop reading fluency using our systematic synthetic phonics programme. To learn about how this is taught in more detail please read our '**Phonics at Burston and Tivetshall**' guide and the '**A parent's guide to phonics**' documents.

Whole Class Reading and comprehension:

Good comprehension draws from knowledge of vocabulary and our knowledge of the world. As such, we provide our pupils with language rich learning environments, a range of opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills and whole year group or class shared reading experiences. We use a range of text types from a selection of reading schemes, as well as a selection of non-fiction texts, such as newspapers, chronological reports and diaries, to ensure that our pupils experience a broad range of texts and subjects. Our high-quality texts are carefully chosen in order to meet the academic needs of each year group, with the 'Whole Class Reading' model providing all our pupils with the opportunity to discuss the texts and answer questions.

In Ks1 children will become familiar with Rex Retriever, Victor Vocabulary, Sequencing Susi, Inference Iggy and Predicting Pip to learn the five key skills needed to become fluent confident readers:

Read: To be able to decode the words.

Retrieve: To recover, call back, recall, regain information from the text.

Explore: To look more closely, scrutinize, examine the authors use of language and viewpoint.

Analyse: To break down into components or essential features, e.g. text conventions, structure and organisation.

Deduce and Infer: To derive as a conclusion from something know, assumed or reasoned.

In KS2, the children will continue to use these characters and be introduced to new ones, to further develop their comprehension skills.

To support these skills, we give the children opportunities to:

Create a visual - Visualize what is happening in the text.

Make a connection - What is the author's message?

Question - Good readers always think and wonder.

Determine the importance - What is the most important part of the text?

Infer - Use background knowledge and clues to make an inference.

Synthesize - Summarize a text.

Notice the author's craft - think critically about a text and make a personal response.

During foundation subject sessions, regular discussions with teachers and peers encourage pupils to read widely to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, to establish an appreciation and love of reading and to gain knowledge across the curriculum.

Our aim is to ensure that, by the end primary education, all our children are able to read fluently and with confidence.

Early Reading:

From their very first days in reception our pupils have opportunities to develop the early language skills necessary for understanding and retelling stories.

They explore and learn through singing and saying rhymes, making and listening to music, talking with

others, sharing books with adults and other children, dressing up, experimenting with writing, using puppets, toys and drama to retell and make up their own narratives.

Regular story times occur throughout the day to allow pupils to enjoy a range of high-quality texts.

Reading Books

In KS1 fully decodable texts are used and will support the children with their early reading experiences. Picture only reading books will be shared with reception children early in the first term. These books are to build up questioning, discussion and comprehension of stories.

Towards the end of KS1 a range of bridging texts are used to develop pupils stamina for reading preparing them for the move to KS2.

Individual Reading

Opportunities for individual, paired and group reading take place throughout the curriculum with pupils enjoying regular experiences of reading throughout the school day and through a range of

subjects. High quality engaging fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts are used throughout KS2 to further develop pupil's stamina and comprehension skills.

Reading for pleasure

Pupils

are always encouraged to read for pleasure both at school and in their free time at home and we encourage pupils to bring in favourite books from home to share. Pupils have access to both class libraries and inviting reading corners and to our whole school libraries. Children also enjoy visits from reading champions, book weeks, book sales, reading challenges and World Book day events. Reading ambassadors in each class champion reading for all. They read with younger children, share their recommendations and create a 'buzz' for reading throughout the school.

Bug Club

Parents - How can you help?

Often, we are asked by parents how they can help their children to learn to read.

Listening to and reading with your child every day is the best way to help them. Chat about and enjoy books together.

Research shows that it's the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education. It's best to read little and often, so try to put aside some time for it every day. Ten good minutes is better than half an hour of struggle! Switch off your TV and mobile phone and give your child your full attention. Use this 'silence' to really listen and identify other sounds around your home. Good listening skills will help your child distinguish the sounds they hear in their phonics sessions at school. Think of ways to make reading fun - you want your child to learn how pleasurable books can be. If you're both enjoying talking about the content of a particular page, linger over it for as long as you like.

If you have any questions about how to help your child on their reading journey, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.