

# Reading at St George's



At St George's we want our children to become enthusiastic and engaged readers and to develop a life - long love of books. Throughout our lessons, we introduce the children to a range of good quality fiction, non - fiction and poetry books.

In Key Stage 1 and Year 3 & 4, we teach reading during weekly guided reading sessions and we use the Read, Write Inc scheme of work in Key Stage 1 to help children decode words using phonics skills alongside teaching sight vocabulary. Once grasped, the focus for developing reading is **understanding and comprehension**.

In Key Stage 2 reading is taught within our 'Write like an author' sessions. Children are taught to recognise and answer a range of comprehension question types.

*'The love of reading is one of the greatest gifts we can pass on to our children. We do it first by reading to them, sharing words and stories, putting voices in their head, showing them other worlds. After that, whatever happens to them in their lives, they need never be completely alone again.'* Nicci French (author)

## Home Reading and Reading for pleasure

Children will bring home an individual reading book each week and will have this changed regularly. Please spend time reading with and talking to your child about what they read, and log the discussions you had in the reading log. **The more interest and enthusiasm you show in your child's reading, the more their confidence will grow!**

Your child should be reading at home for 15 minutes or more each day. Your support is hugely important for developing their reading skills, confidence and understanding. Even if your child is an independent reader, it is still important for you to read with them, listen to them and discuss their books.

### **How you support your child's reading development:**

- Try to listen to and read with your child regularly, 10 minutes a day is better than a longer session once a week. It can help if a regular time is set aside so that it becomes part of a routine.
- Find a quiet place to share books, where you can feel comfortable and relaxed - learning to read needs to be a positive experience. Build their confidence by praising their efforts.
- Encourage your child to have a go at reading words, by using phonics skills to read any unfamiliar words, and by working on building up their sight vocabulary.
- Talk about the meanings of words to help to develop your child's understanding and use of language.
- Encourage your child to read a range of texts such as stories, newspapers, comics, labels, poetry, non-fiction, tickets, signs, leaflets etc
- Read books to your child as well; if they see you enjoying a book it will encourage and motivate them to want to learn to read.
- Ask them questions about the text to help develop their understanding.

## Questions to develop understanding

### Fiction

- Where/when does the story take place?
- Who are the characters in the story?
- What happens in this part of the story?
- Tell me one/two things that the main character does in this part of the story?
- Can you retell the story using your own words?
- Tell me what this character was like?
- Tell me the most interesting/exciting/funniest/your favourite part of the story? Why?
- What do you think the character feels about...? How can you tell?
- What do you think would have happened if...?
- What do you think is going to happen next?
- Which part of this book did you like best/least? Why?
- How has the author used words/phrases to make this character funny/sad/clever/frightening/excited etc?
- Why is... a good title for this story/book/chapter/play?
- Do you know any more stories like this? Tell me how they are alike.
- Do you know another story with similar characters in?
- Tell me how they are similar.
- What do you think this story is trying to tell us?
- Has anything like this ever happened to you?

### Non Fiction

- Tell me 2 things that you found out that you didn't know before.
- What does this part of the text tell us about...?
- Which part of the text tells us about...?
- Why are some words in bold?
- How does this text/layout help the reader?
- How does (a diagram/picture/caption) help you to understand the information on this page?

## Recommended Reads!

### Key stage 1

- The Cat in the Hat - Dr Seuss
- The Tiger Who Came to Tea - Judith Kerr
- Hairy Maclary - Lynley Dodd
- The Large Family Collection - Jill Murphy
- Charlie and Lola - Lauren Child
- Room on the Broom - Julia Donaldson
- The Smartest Giant in Town - Julia Donaldson
- The Gruffalo - Julia Donaldson
- The Hodgeheg - Dick King-Smith
- Poems To Perform- Julia Donaldson
- The Cat Who Lost His Purr - Michelle Coxon
- Frightened Fred - Peta Coplans
- Mog Stories - Judith Kerr
- Mr Wolf's Pancakes - Jan Fearnley
- The Adventures of Captain Underpants - Dav Pilkey
- The Diary of a Killer Cat - Anne Fine
- Mrs Wobble the Waitress - Allan Alhberg
- George's Marvellous Medicine - Roald Dahl
- The Giraffe, Pelly and Me - Roald Dahl
- The Worst Witch - Jill Murphy
- Cosmo and the Magic Sneeze - Gwyneth Rees
- How to Train Your Dragon - Cressida Cowell
- 101 Poems for Children- Carol Ann Duffy

### Key Stage 2

The BFG- Roald Dahl  
The Monster Hunter- Guy Bass  
The Great Troll Rescue- Tom Percival  
The Dragon sitter to the Rescue- Josh Lacey  
Vicious Vikings- Terry Deary  
The Spell Thief- Tom Percival  
Diary of a Wimpy Kid- Jeff Kinney  
The Magic of Finkleton- K.C. Hilton  
Charlotte's Web- E.B. White  
The Secret Garden- Frances Hodgson Burnett  
Matilda- Roald Dahl  
Nate Rocks the World- Karen Pokras Toz  
Harry Potter- J.K. Rowling  
Culloo- Murielle Cyr  
Clockwork by Philip Pullman  
Danny the Champion of the World by R.Dahl  
The Falcon's Malteser by A.Horowitz  
The Ghost of Thomas Kempe by P.Lively  
Stig of the Dump by Clive King  
Harry Potter Collection by J.K Rowling  
A Series of Unfortunate events by L. Snicket  
Aquila by Andrew Norris  
Stone Cold by R. Swindells  
London Eye Mystery by S.Dowd  
Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman  
Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman  
Once by M. Gleitzmann  
The Other Side of the Truth by B. Naidoo  
Skellig by D. Almond  
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S Lewis  
Carrie's War by Nina Bawden  
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke