

Phonics and Reading at King's Oak

Phonics

Phonics is taught daily in discrete sessions to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Applying learned sounds is integrated into reading and writing sessions. Nursery pupils begin by following the *Letters and Sounds* program, which prepares the children for daily phonics lessons in Reception. The sounds are taught in progression based on the structure of Ruth Miskin's *Read, Write, Inc.*, which is supplemented by *Jolly Phonics*. We use a wide range of resources when teaching phonics, including the use of ICT.

Children are assessed using *Read Write Inc.* and *The Phonics Assessment Tool* which places children in different phases within the phonics structure. This is very successful and in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, our children scored well in comparison to other Kingston Schools.

In Key Stage 2, children follow the progression in *Spelling Bank*; spelling is taught daily and included in writing lessons. In marking writing, teachers will direct children to address any misspelt words which they should be able to spell, in line with year group expectations.

Any child who is not progressing and applying spellings in line with most of their peers will be supported through targeted interventions and, in some cases, a home – school individualised programme.

Reading

Reading is also taught using a variety of schemes, which include *Read, Write Inc.* and *Songbirds* in the early stages. In addition to their reading scheme books, children will often take home a book of their choice and make regular use of our school library. Children have a *Reading Record* or *Reading Card* which parents/carers are asked to sign, to verify that their child has read. Our expectation is that younger children will read daily and the time spent on reading at home will increase as children progress through our school so that, by Year 6, children are reading at least 3 times a week for longer periods of time. As in phonics, any child who falls behind will be supported through reading interventions. We also deploy our teaching support staff and volunteers to read with children where we believe that they will benefit from this extra reading practice. Teachers share a class book with their class on a daily basis.

Guided Reading sessions take place in all classes daily, from Year 1 to Year 6. In these sessions children are taught to interpret and understand meaning in texts. During this time, in addition to independent reading, children have the opportunity to listen to a wide range of quality 'talking books' and work directly with their teacher and teaching support assistants.

All children in Key Stage 2 visit our local library every fortnight and families have opportunities, throughout the year, to register with our local library when the librarians visit our school.