

## **Reading**

### **Maidstone Infants Phonics and Reading Scheme**

At Maidstone Infants School we aim to foster a love of reading. All classes have stories read to them and our English lessons often use a book as a starting point. Every child has an opportunity to choose a library book from our library on a weekly basis.

We run regular shared reading sessions with parents in EYFS in order to encourage parents to share books with their children and to allow staff to provide advice to parents on early reading skills.

### **Phonics and SPaG**

The use of phonics is to enable beginner readers to decode new words by sounding them out, or in phonic terms, blending the sounds. We teach phonics using the structure set out in the 'Letters and Sounds' document. In the EYFS this is taught alongside Jolly Phonics stories and actions.

Phonics begins in Nursery; children begin to learn the letter sounds by singing songs and doing actions. They take part in daily games and activities to promote key listening skills essential to early reading, as set out in Phase One of Letters and Sounds.

All parents who have a child starting Reception in September have the opportunity to attend an Induction Meeting before they start school. At this meeting, parents are given a parent pack and an introduction to our phonic scheme. Children in Reception take books with activities in to do at home with parents to consolidate their learning in school. In Phonic lessons children learn to say the sound of letters (the phoneme) and the action that goes with it and to write the letters (the graphemes) through play based activities.

In Year 1, children continue with Phonics lessons. We scaffold the children's understanding through lots of small group activities and interactive games to consolidate their learning. We read lots of 'alien' words so children can really practise using their phonemes.

At the beginning of year 2, children will review the phonemes and alternative graphemes. After this we will be moving onto SPaG lessons where the children will learn spellings, punctuation skills and grammar.

### **Our Reading Scheme**

All children in school read individually with an adult. In addition to this children in KS1 have guided reading activities four times a week. The children read and take home books from a reading scheme that has been banded according to phonic levels. They include books from

- The Oxford Reading Tree – (Floppy's Phonics, Songbird Phonics, Fireflies and Treetops)

We ask parents to share their child's reading books at least four times a week at home and to record progress in individual reading diaries. Children are also given phonic flashcards to practise blending in EYFS and are set spelling work in KS1.