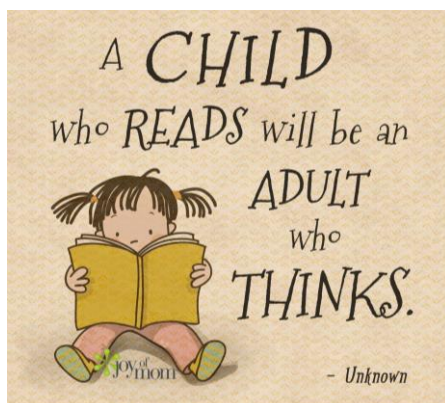


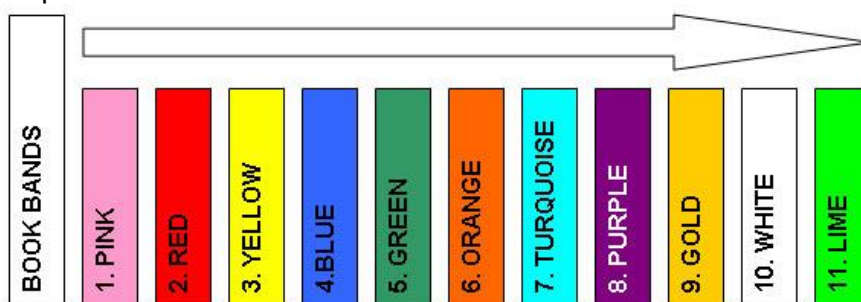


Reading Policy



At St Mary Magdalen's we read from a range of different schemes to ensure that the children have a breadth of different types of books in both fiction and non fiction. Children gain knowledge of their key words through their home reading as well as in their lessons. The core reading scheme for sight vocabulary is PM Readers in the infants. These are fairly thin and parents can expect the children to bring home two of these a week. They also practise reading phonetically with what we call a phonic reader. These are from a range of different publishers but will be book banded to correspond with the level your child is on in their PM reader. Your child will also have an Oxford Reading Tree book for interest.

Our books are colour coded according to the book band system. This help prevents confusion for parents and teachers as children appear to jump around different levels. The stages and levels across different schemes do not match. Great care has been taken to ensure that the books are levelled as closely as possible.



The children are encouraged to choose a library book and change it regularly. Once the children have read a good range of books from lime level confidently then they may choose a book from the many that we have at black level. These are varied and are "free readers". Once this is exhausted they may have a library book as their reading book.

Teaching reading

Children are taught reading in their phonic sessions as well as their literacy reading sessions. We use our own lessons plans around the DFE publication Letters and Sounds. We have a two pronged approach to teaching reading –phonics and sight reading. There are many tricky words that make little phonetic sense so it is important for children to learn these words by sight. Flashcards are still an important part of teaching reading. When children first start school they may have books with no words in them, this is so they can enjoy stories and discover how books work without worrying about text. These books are pre-book bands. At this point they will be learning their sounds so that they can start to blend words together.

VIPERS

As the children progress through school they will learn strategies and techniques for reading more quickly and for ascertaining key facts. Teachers use a strategy called VIPERS to help.

VIPERS is an anagram to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts. Vipers stands for

Vocabulary

Inference

Prediction

Explanation

Retrieval

Sequence or Summarise

Reading Plus

Reading Plus is an online reading program that we use that is designed to improve students' abilities to read faster, comprehend better, and learn new vocabulary. It has an initial assessment and children placed on the appropriate level. They progress at their own rate independently. Commitment to the system has shown great progress in reading fluency and comprehension

Termly Toolkits

In autumn and spring terms teachers hold termly toolkit information evenings for parents. Teachers explain how they teach the reading skills particular for their year group and show parents how they can help.

Parental role

We encourage parents to read with and to their children as much as possible. There are reading videos on Teams for parents to watch at different stages of their child's reading. Children will have 3-4 books at the same time –a new one and one they can already read confidently. These will usually be PM readers as they are strictly levelled and revise key words. Allow them to read the one that they are more confident one first so they approach their new book positively. When a child is

heard read in school they will receive a sticker. We no longer use reading records as they take time away from reading the child-if we have something we need parents to hear we can email and vice versa.

We have many books around the same levels, it is not necessary for home reader books to be kept until the child is word perfect. We need to sustain the interest of the children and they can practise the same words in a different book.

Please take care of our books and return them in good condition. They are very slim, small books but cost over £5 each.

On our website we have a few different help sheets to engage children with reading. It is under the Parent Tab called Helping at Home.