

Primary English Overview

Reading:

Reading is a key skill and essential to learning, but at Laleham Gap we also believe that reading for pleasure is vital for children to discover different authors and genres, thereby increasing their love of books. Each year we have great fun celebrating reading on World Book Day.

Children look at a range of texts in class (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) often linked to the class topic. They also their own individual reading book based on their current reading ability. When ready, pupils are assessed on their reading using the Accelerated Reader scheme. They then choose books from the given level. On completion of a book, they then take a quiz to check how well they have understood it. Children who are not yet ready to access this resource, use Marion Blanks Question Levels to develop their early reading and comprehension skills. This is a resource recommended to us by highly trained Speech and Language Therapists.

Pupils read every day in class, either to an adult, to a peer or to themselves if able. Pupils are encouraged to read regularly at home. Reading books are banded and come from a number of sources including:

- Cambridge Reading Scheme
- Oxford Reading Scheme
- Starlight
- Spirals

We also have a good range of books by popular authors including Anne Fine, David Walliams, Michael Morpurgo, Roald Dahl and Philip Pullman.

Reading for Pleasure takes place daily, under the name Reading+. Children are able to choose which type of text they would like to read. Some of the groups that are currently in place are: Magazines, Audio books and group reading. We have also recently introduced an online library, Myon, which pupils can access both at home and at school.

From Term 6 2022, we will be having 'Book Banter' sessions on a Friday. Staff and pupils will be encouraged to bring in a favourite book, or book related item, to share with others and talk about.

Phonics and Spelling:

The delivery of phonics at Laleham Gap is embedded heavily into EYFS and KS1 and remains an integral part of learning throughout the Primary Age Phase. From September 2022, we will be adopting 'Little Wandle' for our phonics learning. The Year One phonics check takes place in June each year.

In Key Stage Two, pupils have discrete spelling lessons based on their ability. During these sessions, children look at spelling patterns, spelling rules and practice high frequency words. They are also taught to proof read for errors and to use dictionaries. Spelling is also practised regularly on the Spelling Shed programme, that pupils are also able to access at home.

Writing:

The majority of our writing across the Primary phase, is linked to our termly topics. This gives the pupils a great stimulus for their ideas. Grammar and punctuation lessons occur weekly and pupils get the chance to practice their writing skills across a range of genres, both fiction and non-fiction.

Celebrating our English Achievements:

Great pieces of writing from all Primary classes are put on display on our Star Writers board. We also have a Star Readers board which is full of stars from pupils gaining 100% on reading quizzes. In our Friday celebration assemblies, each class has a 'Reader of the Week' and they each receive a certificate.