

Ringsfield CofE Primary School



The mustard seed "is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32 (New Living bible)

Reading at Ringsfield

A child's reading skills are important to their success in school as they enable them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills. In addition, reading is a fun and imaginative time for children, which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

At Ringsfield Primary we have worked hard to raise the profile of reading and to develop the children's love of reading.

In our Nursery the children love to listen to and share stories. Picture books are also available for them to access independently. Our Reception class also has a well-stocked book corner filled with high quality picture books, to engage the children. As well as daily phonics lessons, the children also take part in paired reading sessions three times a week. Books are also available in the 'literacy shed' in the outside area. This provides the children with a fun, comfortable space to access books independently or share with a friend.



In Key Stage 1 the children also have daily phonics lessons and paired reading sessions three times per week using phonically decodable books matched to the phonics phase that the child is working at. The paired reading sessions enable the children to practise reading new sounds and words before taking them home the following week to develop more fluency. In addition to developing reading skills as part of our English planning cycle, the children also complete weekly guided sessions using the 'Take One Book' reading materials and resources. We focus on one book per half term to allow the children to develop an in-depth understanding of the text.



To raise the profile of reading at Key Stage 2 we have developed 'the reading hour'. This a designated learning slot when the whole of Key Stage 2 completes reading group activities. Lower Key Stage and Upper Key Stage 2 are divided into smaller reading groups: Year 4 and Year 6 Reading Gladiators groups and Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Take One Book groups. Children in the Reading Gladiator groups are given a chapter book and asked to read specific chapters at home. They then complete activities relating to these sections during the Reading Hour. The Key Stage 2 hour long reading lessons enable the children to explore, analyse and compare key aspects of the texts used. At Key Stage 2 the children also read with a partner, usually at the beginning of the school day and record their progress in their home/school diaries.



As a school, we also use class books to encourage the love of reading. These books are shared with the children at the end of the school day and are read throughout each half term. Our Headteacher reading challenge is another way in which we nurture and reward regular reading. The children read books from a given selection and then achieve rewards as they progress through each group. The books are grouped according to reading ability. The prize for reading every book in a set is....another special book!

