

Our current Early Reading and Phonics Lead is:

- **Mr Ian Cutts**

At Burstwick Community Primary School we believe that reading is an essential life skill and we are committed to enabling our children to become lifelong readers.

At the heart of our strategy is our drive to foster a love of reading, enriching children's learning through carefully designed teaching activities that utilise imaginative stories and thought-provoking texts.

Reading is a skill that enables children to develop their learning across the wider curriculum and lays the foundations for success in future lines of study and employment. We recognise the importance of taking a consistent whole federation approach to the teaching of reading in order to close any gaps and to target the highest possible number of children attaining the expected standard or higher.

We have high expectations of all children and we encourage children to challenge themselves, persevere and pursue success, always aiming to improve

Phonics and Reading Implementation

Foundation/Key Stage 1

Children first learn their letter sounds and names then apply these to word building. We use Floppy Phonics as the basis for our teaching of phonics. This is a recognised synthetic phonic schemes. The children will also learn a variety of other key words by sight. In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, children aim to read with an adult three times a week as part of a group. Once they are immersed in a text, this book is taken home to enjoy with their grownups. These children also benefit from a reading for pleasure book which is taken home weekly to share.

From Year 2 upwards, children also read individually, in small groups and as a whole class. A variety of different genres are chosen at an appropriate level of ability for each group of children. As well as being able to read the text, children are encouraged to discuss the content of the book and their opinions about people, places and events are sought. Readers will be asked about the varied themes of different texts.

Whole class reading is used to develop inference, retrieval and prediction skills. Children spend time discussing each chapter of their class book or section of text length thinking about new vocabulary and really getting to grips with what the text means. In this way pupils are taught to not just decode texts but understand them fully.

Children who have not met the required standard for phonics in Year 1 or 2 continue to have booster phonics sessions working through the phases either individually or in small group sessions. This continues across Key Stage 2 if necessary. Children who are catching up are encouraged to take home a new phonics reading book after each session. Where children do not read at home, staff facilitate extra reading sessions in the school day.

Key Stage 2

Through independent reading, shared reading in literacy lessons and cross-curricular sessions, whole class reading and reading for pleasure, reading in Key Stage 2 develops and extends the skills acquired in Key Stage 1. In whole class reading, pupils work with their peers to pull apart texts, understand them deeply and learn how to formulate their own ideas from what they have read. Each week is structured to ensure all reading skills are covered and vocabulary is at the heart of the learning.

Children explore a wide variety of genre, both fiction and non-fiction which allows them to access, input ideas and understand what they are reading. They are given opportunities to speculate on the tone and purpose of texts they explore as well as consider both the texts' themes and audience.

We have a wide range of high-quality texts which both stretch and excite our pupils. Specific books have been purchased to interest both boys and girls. We also have a selection of high interest, low ability readers' materials.

Our reading scheme ensures children are offered books that reflect the diversity of our modern world. Children work through the wide variety of books at their own pace. Teachers monitor their progress and determine when best for children to move onto the next stage, ensuring that a range of titles have been explored and understood.

Phonics and Reading Impact

As we believe that reading is key to all learning, the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the result of statutory assessments. Children have the opportunity to enter the wide and varied magical worlds that reading opens up to them. As they develop their own interest in books, a deep love of literature across a range of genres cultures and styles is enhanced.

Through the teaching of systematic phonics and reading enquiry, our aim is for children to become fluent and confident readers who can apply their knowledge and experience to a range of texts through the curriculum.

As a Year 6 reader, transitioning into secondary school, we aspire that children are fluent, confident and able readers, who can access a range of texts for pleasure and enjoyment, as well as use their reading skills to unlock learning and all areas of the curriculum. We firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of the statutory assessments.