

power of reading



Thursday 28th April, 2016

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- The importance of reading for pleasure
- Ofsted: Current emphasis on reading and comprehension
- ARPS: Whole school focus on writing

What is the Power of Reading?

- **Quality Children's Literature at the Heart of all Learning**
- The Power of Reading is a reading and writing project that uses texts to encourage good quality speaking and listening skills and to inspire writing.
- A single text is introduced and studied over a period of weeks or even a whole term.
- All 3 classes in each phase are working on the same text at the same time, allowing teachers to plan lessons and prepare resources together.
- The project provides basic 'teaching sequences' (lesson plans) and ideas for activities that can then be developed by the class teachers.
- Other related texts may be linked to the main focus text.
- Two of our teaching staff members are receiving on-going training from the provider. The information is then cascaded to other members of staff.

Developing an ethos and an environment that excites, enthuses, inspires and values.

- Reading is a socially engaging activity that needs to be valued and encouraged.
- Reading is fun!!
- Our aim is to promote the love of reading in every classroom through the sharing of good quality literature with our children.
- Book corners and the library have been revamped.
- Books are being displayed attractively and browsing and choosing should be easy and accessible for the children.
- Sometimes less is more...

High quality texts

- 'The Power of Reading' uses texts with powerful stories which engage children, stir ideas and feelings and excite the reader's interest and imagination.
- All genres, including non-fiction, are covered.
- All books on the book list have been reviewed to ensure that they are of an appropriate challenging standard for the age group.
- Teachers always read the text previous to teaching it.
- It is **IMPORTANT** that children **DO NOT** read the texts before or as they are being taught.

Read aloud programme

- Reading aloud is probably the most important thing that a teacher can do to encourage a love of reading.
- It needs to be frequent and regular.
- It allows children to enjoy and experience stories that they might otherwise not be able to read... or might not choose to read.
- Children need to see adults enjoying reading - as a positive role model.
- Teachers need to have a love of reading and good understanding of the texts that children will enjoy.

Understanding the importance of illustration in reading

- The use of picture books is essential right through the school even as far as Year 6.
- Children also need to respond to the text through drawing. This helps them to move into an imaginary world where they become part of the story.
- Drawing helps them to articulate their response to what they have read and can help them to analyse the ways in which the writer has used languages and images.
- Henceforth, some sessions will be art based and drawing books will be used in tandem with English books.

Using drama and role play to help children understand and access texts

- Drama and role play provide immediate routes into the story and allow children to explore texts actively.
- They can deepen their understanding and imagining of roles and events which will extend and enrich their reading and writing.

Creating a community of readers with opportunities to share responses and opinions

- Why do we read?
- Reading is fundamentally a social phenomenon – we hear about good books from conversations and discussions with others.
- It is therefore important that invitations to be part of the school reading community involve as many people as possible.
- We have started a book club, where adults and children can share a book together and discuss.