

## **Our aims**

At Askam Village School, we believe that the ability to read is fundamental to many aspects of life, and is pivotal in helping children to make sense of many aspects of the curriculum. The strong interwoven link between reading and writing is recognised and encouraged to develop. We also wish to promote reading for the sheer pleasure it brings and aim to infuse children with enthusiasm and a passion for reading. We acknowledge that parental support is an essential part of the reading process and work closely to help parents be a strong part of the jigsaw.

## **What we do**

Pre-reading activities begin in our Nursery setting and continue throughout the Foundation Stage where they are immersed in a print-rich environment. A wide range of approaches are used to provide first-hand experiences for the children, including books relating to topics, interests etc. When children are ready, they are introduced to graded reading scheme books. Children take books home and are encouraged to read at home. Meetings are held to help parents to encourage and support their child/ren in order to develop children's reading skills. We encourage the use of 'real' books to help build vocabulary.

Reading is initially taught through a systematic synthetic phonics programme, which begins in Nursery and continues until children are confident about recognising and using phonemes. We follow the 'Letters and Sounds' scheme of work and use the actions from Jolly Phonics as part of a multisensory approach. We also use the LCP Scheme of Work to support the teaching of Letters and Sounds. Children develop their sight vocabulary through their understanding of tricky words and common exception words. Reading comprehension is taught in all year groups.

Throughout school, children read individually, in pairs, in small guided reading groups or as part of whole class reading. We welcome parents, carers, grandparents and members of our local community (including role-models such as the local rugby team) to spend time in school listening to children read and talking about what they have read.

As children progress through school, the focus shifts onto Whole Class Guided Reading which addresses the seven assessment strands. Skills include prediction, summarising, inferring, retrieving, understanding of vocabulary and explaining.

## **Reading schemes**

Within Askam Village school, we have many reading schemes; this provides our children with a varied reading experience throughout each reading stage. Children are provided with a diet of different genres such as fiction, non-fiction, poetry, adventure stories, science fiction, diaries etc. We aim to match school reading books to phonic ability. Reading scheme books include; Collins Big Cat and Oxford Reading Tree Songbirds. Once children have become fluent, effective readers they are able to select their own reading books, but are still expected to choose a range of different genres.

## **How to support at home**

The following web sites can be used to help at home;

Reading Tips – [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/top-tips-3](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/top-tips-3)

Struggling Readers – [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/helping-struggling-readers](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/helping-struggling-readers)

Encouraging Reading – [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/encouraging-reading](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/encouraging-reading)

Encouraging Boys to read – [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/encouraging-boys](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/encouraging-boys)

Reading in the Holidays – [www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/reading-in-the-holidays](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-site/expert-help/reading-in-the-holidays)

Developing phonics – [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

For further information about reading, please look at our reading policy (include link), or ask your child's class teacher.