



Reading at Probus School – “Strong roots feed a lifetime of learning.”

Reading

At Probus Primary School we are passionate about reading and children's access to books. We aim to nurture life-long readers, who take pleasure in searching out new books to read, exploring and discovering through literature. Our children's reading experience is much more than the reading book which comes home from school. Reading is happening all the time in our school. It is taught in specific reading and English lessons, but our children are practising and using their reading constantly across all subjects too. Our children's reading journey begins with 'learning to read' and moves on into 'reading to learn'. It is almost impossible to overestimate the importance of reading. Without the ability to read, our children cannot access other subjects properly. Reading is empowering and wonderful.

Adult and Parent Voice

I loved learning about famous people with my children.

What an amazing book all about nurses through time!

I think Big Cat books are a fantastic tool for closing the vocabulary gap for learners.

These books are rich in curriculum specific vocabulary, which further opens discussion between child and adult.

Pupil Voice

Big cat books have lots of different genres.

I learn lots of new words in Big Cat books.

I love the way we learn about different subjects through our reading.

I like the diversity and use of girls as heroes.

These books begin in Early Years and move through until the children are secure in their phonic phases. We have books have been chosen to support older readers with topic appropriate themes to help build on their love of reading. The children will have 2 reading sessions a week with a teacher or TA. Each reading session will focus on different things. This approach can be usefully combined with collaborative learning techniques and Phonics to develop reading skills. The use of techniques such as drawing pupil's attention to text features are particularly useful when reading expository or information texts.

1. Decoding - The children will look through the tricky words and any new vocabulary and have an opportunity to read the book to decode the words.
2. Prosody - The children will read the book again but the focus is on building expression and intonation. This will help the children to gain a better understanding of characters, settings and plot.
3. Comprehension - The children will learn to answer questions about the text. They will be asked to prove it and explain it and use examples from the text to help back up their answers. Successful reading comprehension approaches allow activities to be carefully tailored to pupils' reading capabilities, and involve activities and texts that provide an effective, but not overwhelming, challenge. (EEF, 2020)

In each session the children will all read the book aloud with the adult and listen to each other. This means they get lots of opportunities to practise and build fluency. It is also an opportunity for the adult to model fluent reading before the pupils read the same text aloud with appropriate feedback. The book will then be sent home at the end of the week for you to share at home over the following week. The way we cover the books in class and match the groups to assessments means that by the time the book gets home to you it should be extremely easy for your child to read and you get to give them a chance to show off! This will give you time to share new vocabulary and enjoy the library books the children are bringing home regularly (they are allowed exchange these once a week). Sharing high quality picture and story books, building your child's knowledge of stories and developing their vocabulary is so valuable.



By ensuring we use a high quality, systematic and comprehensive phonics scheme linked to a range of engaging, challenging and exciting texts the children are supported to be successful lifelong readers. In Nursery, the children share high quality texts, rhymes and songs starting to build a love a reading.

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

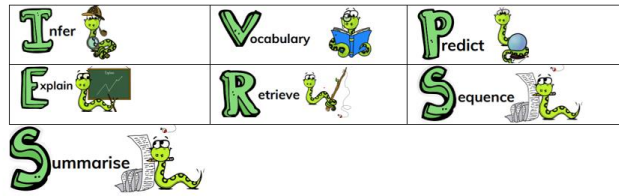
Guided Reading Sessions

The children at Probus Primary School have regular guided reading sessions a week in school, one linked with VIPERS (see the VIPERS poster and questions attached) and one linked with different mediums such as music, film or images. These sessions are very effective for both short and long term memory improvements as they allow the children to explore vocabulary, infer meaning, predict outcomes, explain what they have read, retrieve key information and sequence events. Through discussion they make links to other texts they are read and draw conclusions.



See below for further information.

Furthermore, one session focuses on a range of images, films, songs, poems, short texts, and artefacts. This allows children to discuss with their peers, under the support of the teacher, to build rich vocabulary and explore meaning through images. These activities are designed to develop their comprehension skills without having decode.



See below for further information.

Our English curriculum is linked enriched by our topics which is support by Library Service Loan Box materials to enhance the love of reading, acquisition of knowledge and desire to explore and find out . Therefore, in reading lessons the choice of reading material is varied and linked to what we have been learning about. This is particularly good for children who find reading tricky as it means they have an existing knowledge base - including some of the vocabulary - which they can apply when reading new texts. This also continues with our aim to foster a love or reading and develop lifelong learners.