

English

Reading

At Charing Church of England Primary School we are passionate about reading and actively encourage the children to develop a love of books. Our language rich environment and welcoming class libraries offer the children the opportunity to immerse themselves in a choice of good quality literature, both fiction and non-fiction books, on a daily basis. Every child also has the opportunity to visit our library and to spend quality reading time sitting comfortably on the cushions reading for pleasure or researching their learning.

Children in every class enjoy a shared reading time with their Class Teacher. This is an opportunity for the children to listen to stories and poems that will delight and enthuse them, that they might otherwise be unable to access, and to become fully immersed and engrossed in exciting fictional stories.

How is reading taught?

Every child reads both individually with an adult and as part of a Guided Group, sharing books carefully matched to their current ability. Individual reading targets are set for every child and used to focus their development of reading skills and comprehension. The children learn to decode and understand texts, developing both literal and inferential comprehension, through their individual, group and shared reading opportunities within lessons. Their progress and attainment is carefully monitored by the Class Teachers through the use of the Aquila assessment records and the PM Benchmarking Scheme which places particular emphasis on the children's understanding of text.

Home Reading Books and How you can help

The children have the opportunity to choose a reading book to bring home to share with their parents and carers on a daily basis. This is selected by the child from the school Reading Scheme which is carefully matched to their current reading ability and understanding of texts, or from the library. The scheme itself is composed of a number of different published schemes that have been organised into 'colour bands'. This allows the Class Teacher's to support the children in making appropriate choices according to their ability and understanding.

Please read with your child on a daily basis as this makes an enormous difference to both the attainment and progress of the children.

Reading Journals are used to record the children's reading at home, and should be completed by the child and signed by the adult. The children are encouraged to think about the book that they have read and to review it simply.

The Agents of R.E.A.D

Charing Church of England Primary School is lucky enough to be visited by the mysterious Agents of R.E.A.D (Reading for Enjoyment And Discovery). These super heroes enthuse the children by providing opportunities to share good quality literature just for fun. We very much hope that the Agents of R.E.A.D will choose to visit Charing Primary School regularly in the future to share their love of literature.

Writing

At Charing Church of England Primary School we are striving to develop writers for the future. Writing is taught discretely during English lessons and is used in all curriculum areas to record ideas, research and explanations.

Writing taught through our Creative Curriculum is often non-narrative, not linked to a particular text, author or genre. Through these opportunities the children write for real purposes, developing the skills of factual writing by producing research, recounts, reports and non-chronological texts.

When writing is not one of the subjects linked specifically in the children's current topic it continues to be taught on a daily basis through the use of quality texts and other as stimuli and may be based upon a particular genre or the works of a chosen author. This develops the children's written skills by using authors as role models and places importance on the children participating in drama and speaking and listening activities that lead to good quality writing.

Opportunities for writing are carefully planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Writing targets are set for every child based upon their specific areas for development. The Class Teachers carefully monitor the children's development

in writing, focusing on progress, attainment and possible next steps in order to provide carefully planned opportunities.

Writer of the Week

We are very excited to be introducing a new award for the children to achieve each week – The Writer of the Week award. Through this award, children producing outstanding pieces of writing will be recognised and celebrated each week in our Friday Assembly.

Handwriting

The children are actively encouraged to present their work to the best possible standard at all times. This is the individual child's best presentation and may vary from child to child. In Year R the children learn the basic pre-cursive letter shapes before learning cursive handwriting in Year 1. This enables the children to form and orientate all letters clearly before learning the 'joins' needed to link the letters. All children are expected to use joined handwriting in their work.

Once their handwriting is correctly formed and orientated, neat, legible and consistent with clear ascenders and descenders the children are awarded their Pen Licence and may choose their choice of pen to use in class.

Spelling

All children in KS1 are taught spelling during their Phonics lessons. From Year 2 to Year 6 the children are taught spelling through the use of the No Nonsense Spelling Scheme.

In Year 1 children are set a list of words to learn to read, recognise and spell each week in their Word Books. These are closely linked to their Phonics lessons and include words that contain the phonemes being learnt that week. These spellings are not tested.

In Year 2 the children are set spellings each week that match their Phonics work and the No Nonsense Scheme. These are tested each week.

In Year 3 through to Year 6 the children receive spellings to learn that match the No Nonsense Scheme. These are tested.