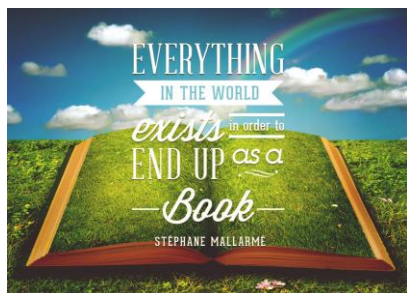




The aims of our curriculum

At Cherry Tree reading is at the heart of every aspect of our curriculum. We believe that reading is a key tool for life. Teaching children to become fluent readers is a large and exciting part of what we do but we also have lots of opportunities for pupils to explore the world of books. We have a school library which has a wide range of both non-fiction, and fiction books which all our pupils visit regularly. In addition to the library every class has its own well-used and much-loved book corner where pupils are encouraged to curl up with a good read.



Curriculum aims

- To enable all pupils to read fluently and with good understanding
- To nurture the habit of reading widely and often for both pleasure and purpose
- To develop linguistic and vocabulary skills
- Appreciate our literary heritage and celebrate diversity through literature
- This will in turn support writing skills through the art of speaking and listening in tandem with the ability to verbalise and express themselves

Asking Questions

How do we teach Reading at Cherry Tree?

Asking questions is an essential part of learning and at Cherry Tree we understand and nurture the understanding that literature can help us answer questions. The foundation of reading is that children initially learn to decode through Little Wandle phonics. From Reception all our pupils are given a banded reading book to support their reading progress. These are taken home and a Reading Record is given to each pupil so they can record and track their reading progress. We encourage our pupils to use the Reading Record as a diary of all the reading that they do both in school and at home. We understand the value and importance of reading with your child at home and encourage all parents to actively support their child in this way.

In school we teach the skills of reading through our Whole Class Reading lessons. These teach our pupils the skills of decoding and understanding vocabulary, retrieval of information, inference, summarising and prediction. As readers develop we also teach the skill of understanding authorial intent and the pleasure of books interpreted through drama and role play.

We also support our pupils' engagement and enjoyment of books through group Guided Reading and Shared Reading activities. These sessions enable pupils to engage with a variety of texts, supported by an adult, enjoying the language used and reading deeper into the text to discover great characters and the journey that a book can take you on.

Making connections

Celebrating Reading

In order to make connections to the world we live in and the world of literature we embrace reading and books in many different forms. We celebrate World Book Day each year at Cherry Tree and dress up as our favourite book characters for this. We also welcome visitors to our school who help us understand the magic and power of books.

These include a fantastic team from Warner Brothers who come into school to share the skills of turning Harry Potter from a book character to a star of the screen. At Cherry Tree we regularly welcome authors and illustrators to share their work with the children. Most recently Rob Biddulph, Sophy Henn, Joelle Avelino and Nadia Shereen to name but a few, have entertained and inspired the pupils here! We are continually looking to enhance our pupils enjoyment of books so keep an eye on our newsletters for our latest visitors.



Learning Through Literature

The Reading Environment

Our whole curriculum is based on texts of every genre you can imagine to ensure our pupils learn through literature. Each of our classrooms has a Reading Corner. Pupils are able to select from an extensive range of fiction and non-fiction books to read at their leisure in school. We also have a school library which provides our pupils with an even greater selection of books to choose from and take home to enjoy. We have a Reading Chair in our school courtyard where pupils can sit and enjoy a good book in beautiful surroundings outdoors. At every turn of our school you will see how much we value reading at Cherry Tree.



And finally here is what the pupils think about reading at Cherry Tree...

- *'Books help you go on adventure, learn things. I like big words, moving up the book bands, we can play games about things from books.'*
- *'We read a lot in class, I love reading because I love stories about people. I love reading because you grow, my teacher reads to us everyday.'*