

Literacy Plan – 2018/19

We want to draw your attention to our plan to raise literacy standards in our school for 2018/19.

I'm sure you are already aware that we have a high standard of achievement in Literacy in this school. We are proud of the standard we have achieved but we always strive to improve our standards.

Team teaching has been found to be very beneficial and this year it is in use in 1st, 2nd and 5th class.

We have chosen these specific areas of focus for the 2018/19 school year:

- Use of rhymes/poetry to develop oral language
- Developing vocabulary
- Comprehension skills
- Handwriting and presentation of written work

Parents frequently ask us how they can help their children with English.

This year we encourage you to

➤ **Engage with your child in learning his rhymes/poems**

Why? Because lots of new language can be learnt through reciting rhymes and poems.

Reciting poems also builds a child's confidence in speaking in front of others. Grandparents and extended family make a great audience!

How can we help you? We will provide a list of the rhymes and poems your child will learn this year.

➤ **Developing vocabulary**

Why? Because developing his vocabulary will aid his ability to express himself and increase both his confidence and competence in the use of language.

Tips for Parents: Try to make some time each day to chat to your child without interruptions from TV/phones/electronic devices- short journeys in the car/walks to the shop are ideal for this.

Chat with your child about the new words he has learnt and encourage him to use them.

1st-6th classes follow News2Day. Talk to your child about current news.

➤ **Familiarise yourself with the Teacher's expectations for presentation of written work at your child's class level.**

How can we help you? Teacher comments on your child's written work will indicate if work is satisfactory/needs improvement.

Parent Tip: Check your child's **pencil grip**.

➤ **Comprehension**

Why? Your child's ability to comprehend oral/written language is vital for processing information.

Tips for Parents: Question your child about stories he has heard/read.

Ask Who/What/Where/Why/When questions.

Encourage him to retell a story. Note his ability to include necessary information/eliminate unimportant information.

Older pupils should be encouraged *to read between the lines* to find implied information.

➤ **Read, Read, Read**

Books, magazines, instructions, comics, annuals..... It really doesn't matter!!

Don't be afraid to read for your child. All children love to hear stories. Listening to you reading helps your child understand the importance of reading with expression as well as expanding their language. It can help them develop a lifelong love of reading.

Your local library is a fantastic FREE activity.

By working together we can raise Literacy standards.