

Curriculum newsletter 6: English

Reading Policy

At West Rise, we believe that reading is a key and integral part of your child's education. We have created a reading policy that guides all members of staff helping your child with their reading. Below is a summary of the aims from the Reading Policy:

- Be interested in books, read with enjoyment and evaluate and justify their preferences;
- Expand their reading range and knowledge of authors and genres;
- Read with confidence, fluency and understanding;
- Be able to draw on a full range of reading clues (phonic, graphic, syntactic and contextual);
- Have an interest in words and their meanings and a growing vocabulary;
- Have a suitable technical vocabulary through which to understand and discuss their reading.

Reading Targets

Firstly, we'd like to thank you all for your hard work in supporting your child's reading at home. I am aware that some of you have been confused about the target boxes at the bottom of each page of your child's Blue Reading book. Hopefully I can make it a bit clearer; there are two target boxes, homework target and reading target. The homework target box relates to your child reading a minimum of three times a week at home. This box will be ticked when it is met. The reading target box is the fortnightly target your child needs to meet and is according to the Stage they are on. Please see the table in the front the Blue Reading book.

Please could I also remind you that your child's Blue Reading book needs to be signed weekly, if your child has read a minimum of three times a week, at home. If your child has not read at home three times, they will be invited to Reading Club on Monday lunchtime with Miss Geering. However, if this becomes a regular occurrence, a detention will be given.

The New Curriculum

As you may be aware the Government released a New Curriculum which we have been following since September 2014. The expectations of learning have risen greatly. This includes the content of children's writing, statutory spelling words, spoken English and grammar terminology. Members of staff are always endeavouring to teach your children all that they need to reach these new expectations.

I have included some websites that have activities to support your child's learning at home.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

If you would like more details on English at West Rise Junior School please come in and speak to Emily Geering, our English leader.