

## Our approach to phonics and reading

### **Phonics**

Phonics is taught in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

We use 'Jolly Phonics' and 'Letters and Sounds'. Phonics is taught every day in Reception and Year 1. In addition we use internet web sites to consolidate learning in a fun way. At the end of Year 1 all children are screened using the statutory Year 1 Phonics Test.

Those children who do not meet the required standard continue to receive phonics teaching through Year 2. We retest these children at the end of Year 2. If a child is still struggling, phonics teaching will continue in Key Stage 2.

### **Reading**

In school we have a wide variety of reading books for the children to read. We use a variety of phonics based reading schemes and books, topic books and other books of general interest. This way the children experience a rich variety of texts and vocabulary.

Reading books are colour banded to a particular reading level. We closely monitor each child's progress in reading and the child reads books at the level which is appropriate to their development. We assess progress and when a child shows good understanding we move them onto the next level.

Once a child shows understanding at a reading age of approximately ten years, they become a 'free reader' and can choose which ever book they wish from the school library.

Children read regularly in school. In Reception they will read to an adult 2 or 3 times a week. Guided reading is introduced in Reception. An adult shares a text, which is at the appropriate level, with a small group. Guided reading is then used as our main focus for teaching reading in school. Some children may need to read individually to an adult as well as being part of a guided reading group.