



Reading Together



We really value the importance of reading at St Nicholas at Wade CE Primary school. Research shows that the enjoyment and chatter from sharing books is vital in children's language, attention and listening skills. Sharing lots of different books and allowing your child to choose books helps to generate a culture of enjoyment with reading (newspapers, magazines, comics, non-fiction, fiction and picture books). Using picture books to help modelling retelling stories, noticing things, book talk and asking questions all help provide a rich starting point for your child to develop.

What does reading look like?

Try modelling reading time together; where you might read and your child does too! Starting a habit of a quiet reading time together to start firm foundations. Sharing familiar books (rhyming books are great) which allow your child to join in with familiar parts. Visits to the library and book shops enable a broader range of books that your child can access. Book sharing daily is a nice chance to help keep that enthusiasm and we encourage you keep this going all through their school life.

Book Talk

Before reading a book together, always talk about the title, the pictures and the information on the cover (front and back). If it's new, ask what your child thinks the book might be about. If it's an old favourite then talk about the bits you love most! Don't worry if some books get chosen again and again!

Reading with different voices

When reading aloud use lots of expression and try different voices for different characters. Get your child to join in with bits too, such as "Fee, fi, fo, fum" and "not by the hair on my chinny, chin, chin!" See if your child can copy you!

You can never ask enough questions!

Talk about the stories and information books when you've finished reading together and ask questions. What did you like best? Why did Cinderella feel sad? Have you ever seen a thunderstorm? Get your child to ask questions too.

Retell stories and events

Ask your child about things that happened at school or with their friends. Sometimes after you've shared a story or watched a TV programme, ask your child to tell you about it. Help them by asking what happened first? What next? And then what happened?

