



Here at St Leonard's First School, we value the importance and enjoyment of reading for pleasure, as can be seen by our reading motto in the new school library:

The more you read, the more you know, and the more you know, the further you'll go.

Children are encouraged to choose books from the school library or from home to read with their parents in order to foster a love of reading for pleasure. Children in all classes are regularly reading whole class books appropriate to their age as part of their learning. Our school curriculum is designed around high quality books that link to our half termly topics.

Daily phonics is taught through the phases within the 'Letters and Sounds' document alongside the use of Jolly Phonics with the younger children. Letters and Sounds is divided into six phases, each one building on the knowledge and skills acquired during the previous phase. Once children have completed the six phonic phases, they have daily spelling, punctuation and grammar teaching. They learn to read key words through a focused precision teaching approach at their individual pace. Spelling is enhanced through a weekly spelling bee.

Each child's reading journey will be unique to them. Our reading scheme - Oxford Reading Tree - is book banded and has sets of books that directly link to the sounds and words that the children will be learning in their phonics sessions. This includes sets of phonic based stories in addition to the old favourites. We also have a range of other sets of reading books to meet the individual needs such as those which are Dyslexia friendly and have a higher interest level. Other reading schemes we have in school are; oxford treetops, Ginn all aboard, Project X, read, write inc phonics and rapid readers.

Our children have access to a range of reading genres through a wide selection of both fiction, non-fiction and poetry books.

Once children become fluent readers, they can access the book banded library books. Once they have read their book they can then complete a comprehension activity on the computer to assess their understanding of the story. Through this 'Accelerated Reading' programme we can monitor children's reading progress and we have seen that the children become fluent and motivated readers.