Harvington CE First and Nursery School

Reading

At Harvington CE First and Nursery School we believe that language development is fundamental to the overall development of the child and enables their access to the curriculum in all its aspects. It is acknowledged that, "Speaking and listening, together with reading and writing, are prime communication skills that are central to children's intellectual, social and emotional development" (Rose 2006).

We believe that the acquisition of reading is fundamental to every other curriculum area. We encourage reading for meaning, fluency, accuracy and pleasure showing signs of increasing independence and confidence.

Aim

To produce children who read because they gain pleasure, understanding and enjoyment from reading a range of both fiction and non- fiction.

Reading Schemes

The school uses rocket phonics reading scheme throughout the school. Teachers will use their judgement for differentiation if needed and may use picture books or another scheme. Reading books are carefully matched to the children's phonic knowledge. When children are confident readers, they access a range of 'free reader' texts, both fiction and non- fiction.

Phonics

Following an update from the DfE around phonics teaching we have moved to using Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS), this is a phonics programme based on Letters and Sounds (2007). This new phonics programme will support your child in making quick progress to become fluent and confident readers. The ELS principle is getting all children to read well, quickly.

The principles of ELS are based upon:

• the delivery of whole-class, high-quality first teaching with well-structured daily lesson plans
• the use of consistent terminology by teachers, children and parents
• the use of consistent resources that support effective teaching
• repetition and reinforcement of learning
• regular and manageable assessment to ensure that all children 'keep up' rather than 'catch up'