

## **The Importance of Reading to the Curriculum**

At St Mary's RC Primary School we believe that the ability to read is fundamental to pupils' development as independent learners. In order to read across the curriculum with fluency, accuracy, understanding and enjoyment, pupils need to be equipped with a range of strategies, drawing on and combining knowledge of context, grammar, punctuation, phonics and word recognition. Reading development is closely related to that of writing, speaking and listening, for it is by immersion in text, reflecting and talking about it and by experiencing the writing process for themselves that children come to understand the special relationship which exists between author and reader. It is through their critical and imaginative engagement with texts that pupils' reading of fiction, poetry and non-fiction texts enables them to make sense of the world and their place in it.

Across the school we use a range of age appropriate texts from reading schemes (Rigby Star, Oxford reading tree PM) as well as encouraging the children to enjoy texts from a range of different authors. Each class has weekly access to the library where they can find a variety of fiction and non fiction texts along with poetry and magazines. The stock is replenished on a rolling programme. Each classroom also contains a selection of texts which are used to support the curriculum or for the children's independent reading time.

In Foundation Stage and KS1 we use Jolly Phonics to help support our teaching of phonics and Action Words to help with children's recognition of sight vocabulary. Parents information workshops are held to help parents support a child's reading at home.

Teachers used a range of texts to help support the teaching of literacy and understand the importance of introducing the children to new authors and experiences which then feed their imagination and stimulate the writing process.