

Worlebury St. Paul's CofE VA Primary School



English Curriculum Overview

At Worlebury St. Paul's Primary School we pride ourselves on a creative English curriculum which aims to inspire all children. We will help children develop the skills and knowledge that will enable them to communicate effectively and creatively through spoken and written language and equip them with the skills to become lifelong learners.

English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised.

[National Curriculum, 2014](#)

Reading

Reading widely and often increases children's vocabulary because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. Reading also feeds children's imagination and opens up a treasure-house of wonder and joy for curious young minds.

[National Curriculum, 2014](#)

At Worlebury St. Paul's we are committed to supporting every child with their reading skills, and inspiring them with a love and enjoyment of reading. Throughout their school life, children have access to a wide range of reading opportunities that include:

- guided reading groups
- regular independent reading
- home-school reading linked to whole class reading targets
- peer-to-peer reading
- hearing books read aloud on a regular basis
- high quality texts as part of other subjects
- exciting events such as Book Week and Reading Challenges
- high quality texts as part of other subjects

Spelling and Phonics

Children are taught phonics every day in Foundation Stage and Year 1. This is taught through games, songs and rhymes, and the sessions are fast paced and fun. From Year 2, spelling follows the Learning Exchange Spelling Programme and is taught four times a week through a variety of games, activities and written application. In class, children have access to dictionaries, word mats and a spelling working wall which displays the pattern of the week. For children who require further support, discrete phonics teaching is offered as part of intervention groups and there is access both in school and at home to the [Nessy Spelling Reading Programme](#).

Writing

Our aim is for children to become confident writers who are able to explain their thoughts and ideas clearly, and express themselves creatively. We offer imaginative, purposeful writing opportunities carefully balanced with the teaching of grammar, punctuation and sentence construction. Children have a 'Writing Excellence Folder' which is contributed to each year of their school life. This folder is a source of pride for the children as it follows their writing journey and showcases some of their finest learning.

Each term, children are exposed to both fiction and non-fiction writing which is closely linked with their Learning Theme. The current units for each year group can be found on the [Curriculum Overview](#) section of the website.

When writing, children have a wide range of experiences that include:

- writing in different contexts and for different purposes and audiences
- writing a range of fiction (narrative, poetry and play scripts) and non-fiction (discussion, instructions, explanation, report, persuasion)
- a variety of writing stimulus e.g. first hand events, books, films, music and storytelling
- exposure to high quality texts and WAGOLLs (What A Good One Looks Like)
- [talk for writing](#) strategies
- shared and guided writing
- planning, editing and improving writing
- publishing writing, both handwritten and electronically
- becoming effective at responding to high quality feedback
- developing a strong understanding of the conventions of writing, including grammar and punctuation
- forming letters correctly, leading to a fluent joined and legible handwriting style, giving increasing regard to presentation

As one seven-year-old once said to me, 'What I like about writing is you never know what is going to happen.' The creative writer knows what it is like to create. And creativity matters because it makes us all special. We can all succeed in this but all of us will succeed uniquely.

By Pie Corbett