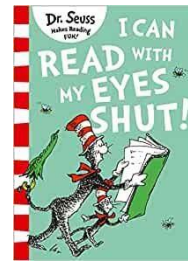


## Reading at St Nicolas C of E Academy

*“The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.*

*The more that you learn,  
the more places you’ll go.”*

(Dr Seuss, “I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!”)



### Intent

At St Nicolas C of E Academy, reading lies at the heart of the curriculum, as we believe reading is key for academic success. We are dedicated to igniting a lasting love of reading through engaging all children in books so that they become fluent, confident readers.

Our creative and challenging English Curriculum Text Map has been designed to engage children’s interest through ambitious and progressive texts that are chosen on literacy merit first and foremost although these often match our topics. A wide range of authors and genres have been carefully selected to ensure coverage of the following:

- Fiction from our literary heritage
- Historical Fiction
- Fiction/Picture Book
- Traditional Tales Fiction
- Visual Literacy
- Modern Fiction

The Text Map is reviewed regularly to ensure texts remain relevant, current and representative of the diverse world in which we live.



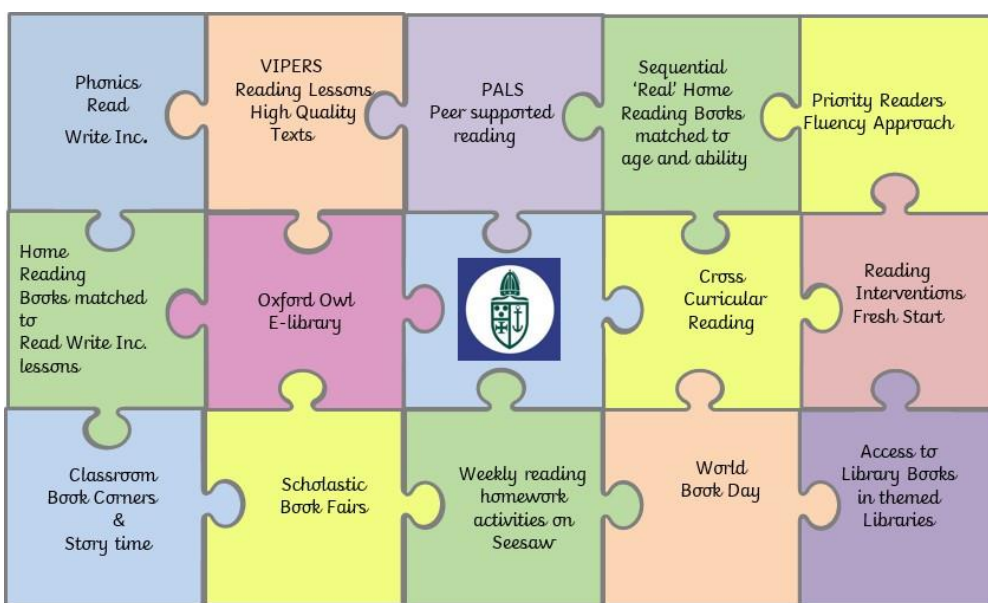
We have two engaging and inviting libraries that the children help to run.



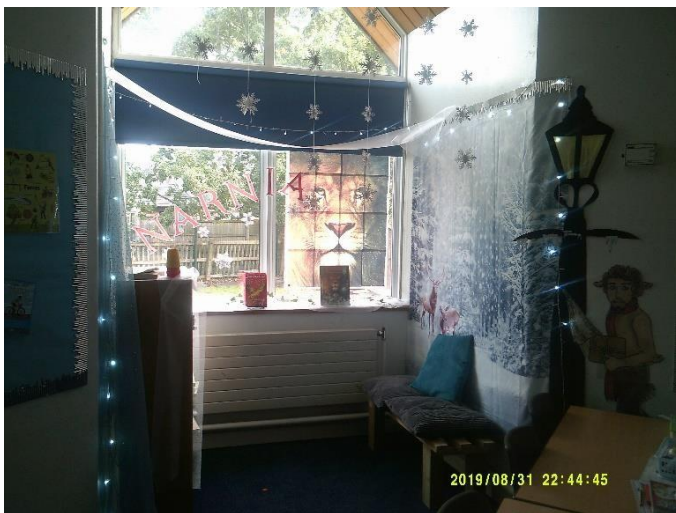
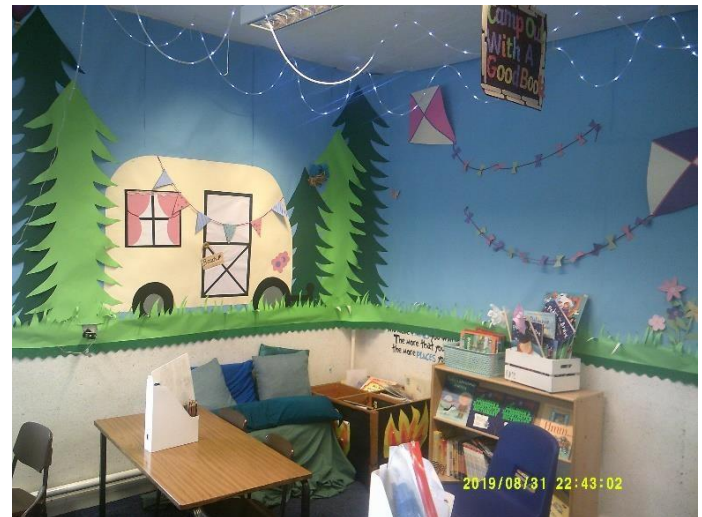
## Implementation:

Children take part in whole class guided reading lessons each week where they are exposed to our core texts and reading material linked to foundation subject topics. They learn to demonstrate their understanding through discussion and answering questions. Children support each other in their independent reading aloud through partner reading and comprehension skills.

During these lessons, children use reading activation strategies to support their decoding and understanding of text. Visual prompts on reading activation bookmarks support this.



Children take home 'Book Bag Books' linked directly to their phonics lessons in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One, as well as a library book to share and enjoy. Fluent readers (free readers) who have completed the Read Write Inc. Program choose from real books matched to their age and ability and these are changed regularly. Children are also encouraged to choose books from the library and recommend books to each other. Reading homework is set weekly using our online learning platform, Seesaw. Every class has an inviting book corner, which is stocked with a range of reading books as well as books matched to class topics. This offers opportunities for pupils to apply their reading skills across the curriculum.



Class teachers read to the children daily during 'Storytime' and this may be a book that the teacher recommends to the class or a recommendation from a child. Each year, every group selects a 'Favourite Five' – five books that are well-loved by the age group which will be read during the year. The 'Favourite Five' is updated to reflect current interests and new book releases.

Children in Key Stage Two who are not yet 'free readers', are given daily intervention sessions using the Fast Track Read Write Inc. programme for those in years 3 and 4, and Read Write Inc. Fresh Start, for those in years 5 & 6. Children who need additional regular reading practise read individually and regularly to adults in school. Pupils who need to improve their fluency receive support through a 'Fluency Approach' where the adult reads the page or passage first, modelling strategies for decoding. The intention is that afterwards the pupil reads fluently, enabling them to concentrate on reading for meaning. Our lowest ability readers access a precision

teach approach in the form of comprehensive online reading assessment and monitoring tool recommended by our Educational Psychologist (EPATT).

**Impact:**

Children at St Nicolas C of E Academy love books and reading. They are competent readers who can recommend books to their peers, they have a thirst for reading a range of genres including poetry, and participate in discussions about books. They can read books to enhance their knowledge and understanding of all subjects on the curriculum, and communicate their research to a wider audience.

Our Scholastic Book Fairs are always extremely successful and well-supported and the children and staff always fully participate in celebrating books and reading on World Book Day. Pupils request books by preferred authors and are always eager to change their reading books regularly. Pupils enjoy story time and talk about their favourite books and authors. Our Pupil Premium children thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to take home a free book of their choice each term, enabling them to build a home library, which will encourage their reading journey.