Phonics and Early Reading

Giving every child a strong start in reading, and a love of books that lasts a lifetime.

At our school, giving every child a strong start in reading is one of our highest priorities. From the moment children join us in Nursery, we focus on building the early foundational skills they need to become confident, fluent readers, and just as importantly, a real love of books and reading.

Daily	**3× a week**	**Nursery**	**Every day**
focused phonics lesson for every child	reading practice groups	is where phonics begins	a reading for pleasure book goes home

A World of Wonderful Books

We believe children should see themselves and the wider world in the stories they read. That's why we offer a huge range of high-quality texts, including diverse books that celebrate different families, cultures, experiences and voices. Our school library is a treasure trove for curious young readers, and every classroom has an inviting book corner where children can snuggle up, explore and share stories together.

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds

We teach phonics through the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised scheme, which begins in Nursery with songs, rhymes and listening skills, laying the foundations for all the learning to come. Every child across the school has a dedicated, focused phonics lesson every single day, helping them learn to decode words with growing confidence and joy. **Moving into Year 2:** children move on to A Bridge to Spelling and read the Little Wandle fluency books, which are chapter books.

Reading Books That Match Your Child's Phonics

Children read books that are carefully matched to the phonics they have been learning. These books are all Big Cat books, which are high quality, engaging and a joy to read. Reading practice groups take place three times a week across the school, giving children plenty of time to practise, build fluency and celebrate their progress with their teacher.

Reading for Pleasure

Learning to read is only part of the journey. We want children to love reading too! That's why children also choose reading for pleasure books to take home every day, to share with family, enjoy together and explore at their own pace. Whether it's a favourite story, a funny rhyme or a book about a fascinating topic, these moments at home help turn young learners into lifelong readers.

Together, we are helping every child discover that reading opens the door to imagination, adventure and endless possibilities.