

Phonics and Reading at Egremont Primary School

At Egremont Primary School we value the importance of reading as a foundation to learning, and aim to develop pupils who are fluent, enthused readers who read with understanding and enjoyment. In addition to daily Guided Reading sessions in all classes across the school, we support reading skills in school through a reading- enriched curriculum, support for parents in promoting reading at home and additional groups and 1:1 reading sessions where appropriate.

For our early readers, we recognise the importance of teaching a systematic synthetic phonics programme to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right, as well as prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. We follow the Letters and Sounds programme, and use Jolly Phonics to teach the actions for each sound to support visual learning. The Letters and Sounds programme provides a detailed, systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting by the age of four, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by age seven. Children are also taught high frequency words, which do not completely follow phonic rules.

Parental or carer support is integral in ensuring that every pupil reaches their potential and we seek to involve parents in supporting their child's reading progress, through effective home/school communication.

We actively encourage parents to read with their children regularly or at least once a week (in KS1 and KS2 books can be changed daily), which is an opportunity to apply phonics knowledge and skills learnt in school.