

Reading at Viridis

At Viridis, reading is at the heart of what we do. Reading opens the children's minds to many worlds – both real and fantasy, that they cannot explore in quite the same way through other mediums. Reading sparks the imagination in a way that can't be matched.

Because of this, we make sure that children are reading every day: exploring language, decoding new words and analysing the material they are reading.

We follow the 'Destination Reader' approach in Key Stage 2, which supports the children to develop vital reading skills:

Inference: finding clues for meaning and reading between the lines.

Clarifying: working out the meaning of unknown words in context.

Making Connections: finding similarities between different texts and between a text and the children's own experience.

Prediction: making 'sensible guesses' about what will happen next, based on what has been read.

Asking questions: reading a piece of text and questioning what they have read to explore further.

Evaluating: looking at the effectiveness of a text/choice of word and how fit for purpose it is.

Summarising: identifying the main ideas being put across in a text.

Parent Engagement

In EYFS and KS1, we encourage parents to join us on a Friday morning in class at 8.55am to read with your child.



Early Reading

In Reception and Year 1, we follow the Daily Supported Reader programme. The programme is finely attuned to ensure children become fluent readers who are independently motivated. Children:

- read stories on their own from the start.
- learn to respond and engage with new ideas and information (cultural capital).
- are taught skills for decoding and blending.
- learn to understand story message.



Literacy

Reading

Writing

Speaking

and Listening

A graphic of an open book with a white page and a green cover. The text is written on the right page.

"Literacy is not a luxury – it is a right and a responsibility."

Enrichment Activities

Throughout the year, reading is celebrated in a variety of ways in order to raise its profile and to engage the children's passion to pick up a good book!

World Book Day

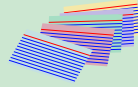
Across the school, children are encouraged to bring to life their favourite book characters through dressing up and sharing this with their peers. Children are encouraged to swap their favourite books through our book swap shop. Children team up with children from another year group and read together and share their passion for a story or two.

Book Links

After studying the work of an author, the children have the opportunity to meet the person who wrote the book, having the opportunity to hear about experiences, inspiration and stories from the writer themselves!



Ideas to Support Your Child with Spelling



Create a set of flash cards

Have your child write their spelling words in pencil on one side of the card and then another set with the meaning



Use alphabet magnets or Scrabble tiles to spell out each word



Write sentences for each word.

Make sure your child is using it in context so they are familiar with its meaning.



Write or type a story that includes all of the spelling words.

The story doesn't have to be a master piece. But it should help them understand the meaning of their words.



The Spelling Bee

Each year, Viridis hold a Spelling Bee! This is a great opportunity to encourage your children to have an extra push with their spellings. Successful spellers will take part in a series of heats, with the winners of each site taking part in a Federation final – with the aim of being the Viridis champion!

Ideas to Support Your Child with Writing

Story sparks

Every story needs a spark of inspiration. Encourage your child to look out for stories in everyday life. Use these experiences to fuel their imagination and turn them into a story of their own.

All you need is a good book

Give your child a creative space that's just their own – a note book or journal for them to jot down story ideas, invent incredible characters or even draw pictures of the places where they want to set their story.

Share and celebrate their writing

Make time in your day to listen to the story your child is writing. Type it up, print it out, make it look like a book and send it out to friends and family.

Find what writing appeals to them

If writing stories isn't their favourite, try something else! Write letters between family members, create reports on their favourite topics or create biographies about their favourite celebrity or hero.

