

Our Vision for ENGLISH at our school

At North Mundham we want all children to value the importance of reading, writing, speaking and listening - whether that be enjoying a fabulous book, reading a toy instruction pamphlet, performing in a play or class assembly, or writing a letter to grandparents. Our English curriculum is carefully planned to ensure progression of skills, as well as coverage of genres, so that the children grow up as fluent readers and writers. These skills are then applied in other subjects through opportunities promoted in our topic 'Cornerstones' curriculum. We believe in the importance of language: through being taught to write and speak fluently, pupils learn to communicate their ideas and emotions to others; through their reading and listening, others can respond and communicate back. We have created an English curriculum that encourages enthusiasm and engagement and provides rich and varied learning opportunities that help them to become confident and enthusiastic learners. Children hone their English skills in daily lessons, with additional time for spelling, to listen to a story and to read quietly alone or with a friend.

English At North Mundham Primary School

A North Mundham Leaver will...

- Be a confident reader and writer.
- Know how to listen to visitors and each other, showing respect and curiosity.
- Know how to respond appropriately and speak with confidence.
- Have developed a love and interest in reading and be able to discuss their reading with confidence.
- Have had experience of a wide range of challenging texts.
- Have increased legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting.
- Have had the experience of taking part in collaborative plays and musicals.

Our English Writing Curriculum

Our curriculum allows children to write freely and read with a passion. Our writing curriculum is based around 'The Write Stuff' by Jane Considine, which we strive to personalise. Lessons bring clarity and consistency to the mechanics of writing and to enable our children to write effectively and coherently. As a school, all children from Year 1 to Year 6 learn to write through the Write Stuff approach and through bespoke, planned writing experiences. This approach allows children to learn from modelled sentences, apply basic skills, vocabulary and grammar knowledge to write their own effective sentences (using Alan Peat Sentence Types), which are full of impact and keep the reader interested. They learn the importance of 'writing for a reader' and therefore to use skills learnt in spelling and grammar lessons and see the importance of editing. Children learn through a rich programme of activities that are often linked to an inspirational text or topic. We aim to incorporate as many 'real' reasons for writing as we can, to motivate and engage the children. Spelling lessons from Year 2, follow a programme of activities that are built on the fundamentals of teaching spelling with strong phonic foundations.



We enrich the curriculum by...

having whole school opportunities that embed the love of English, be that in reading, writing or speaking and listening. We hold yearly events that include: author visits and workshops; team reads, where, for example, children in the Kestrels Team from different classes get to share books with each other; a bookfair to experience browsing and buying a book; an annual Poetry Slam to celebrate poetry and the skills of reciting poems to an audience; whole school writing events (write about a book that you would love to jump in to!); World Book Day dress up occasions; and the opportunity to take centre stage (or a role in the chorus or sound, just as important!) in one of our annual plays at the end of each term.

Our English Reading Curriculum

Reading is a vital skill at every stage of school life, enabling children to access all areas of the curriculum and beyond. Books not only enrich the minds of children; they also help them relax and enjoy some precious calm moments. Every staff member at North Mundham Primary is committed to promoting 'a love of reading'. We teach through the use of high-quality picture books, novels, poetry and non-fiction engaging pupils using a wide range of teaching approaches. Through reading a wide variety of planned quality texts, pupils acquire new knowledge and build on what they already know. As a school, we follow the phonics-based programme called 'Read, Write, Inc' produced by Ruth Miskin. This is rigorously managed throughout KS1 and sessions take place daily.

Children learn to: draw upon word meanings and think about vocabulary, infer, predict, explain and discuss, retrieve and summarise. Book Talk is our aim in reading lessons.