

Reading and Phonics at Neston Primary School

Phonics

At Neston Primary School, early reading is taught using synthetic phonics as the main approach to reading. Pupils are systematically taught the phonemes (sounds), how to blend the sounds all through the word for reading, and how to segment the sounds in order to write words. They are taught to use their phonic skills and knowledge as their first approach to reading, but are also taught high frequency words which do not completely follow the phonic rules. We call these 'tricky words'

The school begins teaching phonics using the multi-sensory Jolly Phonics pictures and songs which is followed by ICT games and phonics play (which can be found on the Internet e.g. the BBC "Fun with Phonics)

Reading Schemes

At Neston Primary School, all our early reading books are colour banded. Your child will be given a colour band to choose their home reading book from which will help to ensure that the book they select is at about the right reading level for them. Every colour band includes books from a range of reading schemes so that they will experience a range of stories, text types and illustrations. The majority of books within the early book bands can be decoded using phonics skills and knowledge. A range of published schemes used including Rigby Star Phonics, Big Cat Phonics, Fun with Phonics, Floppy Phonics, Phonics Bug and Songbirds.

Reading for Pleasure

At Neston Primary School, we encourage pupils to develop a love of reading by having well stocked library corners in each classroom, strong links with Neston Library, whole school homework each half-term using a key book as a focus. We also have a very successful Book Swap Shop that is open each week. Children are able to borrow a book each week and return it the following week. The books in the Swap Shop are regularly added too and the new books are highlighted in assemblies and in classes.

We also support and actively promote the local libraries Summer Reading scheme. We have also organised Extreme Reading competitions and participate in World Book Day each year.



Q. What's one of the best things you can do for your children?



A. Listen to them read and read to them.