



Aiden 92

Bede 148

Chad 162

Columba 158

Phonics and Early Reading at St Michaels

This week, we were excited to welcome families to our Phonics and Early Reading Open Morning, where they had the opportunity to see firsthand how we teach early reading skills. The event offered a glimpse into the methods we use to help students develop their phonics knowledge, which forms the foundation for confident reading and writing. It was fantastic to see families learning about the strategies we use and seeing the great progress our young learners are making. Thank you to everyone who joined us!



'It was great to see a lesson in action and see how phonics is taught.'

'Really helpful to watch the phonics lessons to show how the children learn and how to help at home.'

'Lovely to see the children so engaged and a love of learning.'



At St Michaels, we follow the Little Wandle Letter & Sounds phonics scheme. Phonics teaching begins in Pre-School and continues until children have learnt all the sounds and can read them fluently. You can find out more information, including a planning overview and helpful videos on the [Little Wandle website](#). Our children in Reception and KS1 read books from the Collins Big Cat reading scheme. This is carefully planned and matched to their reading ability. These texts are re-read multiple times in school before being sent home for home reading. This is to ensure the children can read them confidently and fluently, which is important for improving understanding of the meaning of the text, vocabulary and reading motivation.

Children also take home a Sharing book for their adult to read with them.

We visit the library once a week to make our choices!



Look what we've been up to so far this term!

Reception

In Reception we are learning lots of new sounds. So far we have learnt s, a, t, p, i, n, m, g, c and k. We are practising reading words that contain these sounds such as tip, pat and map. We have also learnt the tricky word 'is'. The children have been busy learning how to write these sounds. The children are enjoying learning how to read!



Year One

In Year One, we have been revising lots of the sounds and tricky words that we learnt in Reception to make sure we are confidently reading them. Once a week, we write a sentence that includes all the sounds we have been practicing to help with our writing as well as our reading. We have learnt four new sounds so far – ay, ea, ou, oy. We have been busy applying these in our reading and writing too. We love learning new things in Year One!



Year Two

In Year Two we have been reviewing the phase 5 sounds to see if we can spot where we see them in words. We have been sorting words into the different graphemes so we can use them to make the different phonemes.

In our reading lessons we have been focusing on understanding the vocabulary used in the different texts. We have also used new learning strategies to help answer prediction and retrieval questions.

