

# Phonics KS1

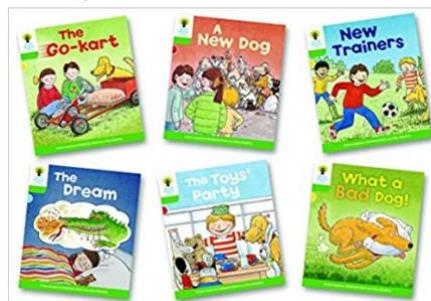
## Letters and Sounds



At St Leonards, phonics is taught using Letters and Sounds; a detailed and systematic approach for teaching children phonic skills. The children work through phases, beginning with phase 1 which focuses on sound discrimination, rhythm and rhyme and oral blending and segmenting, through to phase 6 which looks at spelling patterns, prefixes and suffixes, and doubling and dropping letters. The phoneme, unit of sound, is introduced using the multi-sensory Jolly Phonics programme, which uses actions and songs to teach the 40+ letter sounds and digraphs. The children are then taught the letter formation using Read Write Inc (RWI) rhymes. As they learn phase 2 graphemes, the children then learn how to blend these together, to begin to read words. In order to apply this understanding, and write the word, they learn how to segment words into each unit of sound. Alongside this, children are taught how to read common exception words, words which do not follow the common phonetic spelling rules.

## Reading Schemes KS1

We use a combination of reading schemes, these include Songbirds, Pearson (Bug Club), Oxford Reading Tree, as well as Project X. These give a variety of fiction and non-fiction books to develop children's reading range. Children learn to read at different rates. To help us match children to the correct level of books we use Books Bands which colour code a large variety of reading scheme books, as well as ordinary fiction and non-fiction books. From Year 2 children are encouraged to select their own books, within their book band colour. Children are encouraged to borrow books from the School Library, children will have a library slot weekly and can change books then and after school.



# Reading in KS2

Usually by the time pupils have reached KS2 they are more able to choose for themselves, from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction literature. Many will continue to read from a range of scheme books available in school classroom libraries. Children are encouraged to borrow books from the School Library. Each class has a slot in the library weekly. The school library is open Monday to Thursday after school.



From Year 3, pupils have access to Accelerated Reader which is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practice. With Accelerated Reader teachers can create a reading programme to meet the needs of every student. Using information generated by the software, teachers can help students select books that are difficult enough to keep challenged, but not too difficult to cause frustration. After reading, children complete comprehension quizzes on the books they have read.