



# Heron Cross Primary School

## Reading 2025-26

### Intent:

At Heron Cross Primary School, we are committed to fostering a lifelong love of reading in our pupils. Our reading curriculum is designed to ensure that all children develop the skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary to read with fluency and comprehension. We aim to create enthusiastic and confident readers who can access a wide range of texts across different genres and cultures, thereby enhancing their academic and personal development. Our objectives include:

- **Developing a Reading Culture:** We strive to cultivate an environment where reading is celebrated and encouraged, engaging both children and the wider community.
- **Inclusivity:** We recognise the diverse needs of our pupils and provide tailored support to ensure that every child, regardless of their starting point, is able to become a competent reader.
- **Encouraging Critical Thinking:** We aim to equip children with the ability to analyse texts, infer meanings, and appreciate various literary styles, fostering a deeper understanding of both the content and context.

At Heron Cross, we aim for all of our pupils to:

- Read confidently and fluently.
- Develop a lifelong enjoyment of reading, taking pleasure from what they read.
- Develop the reading skills they need to access all areas of the curriculum.
- Be encouraged to read outside the classroom.
- Understand the meaning of what they read and what is read to them.
- Become immersed in other worlds, real and imaginative through the use of a wide variety of high-quality texts.

Our Reading Curriculum:

- All pupils are exposed to a rich reading curriculum.
- All pupils are encouraged to read regularly at home.
- All pupils and parents are encouraged to engage with the reading process by recording in reading diaries.
- All staff promote a love of reading.
- All classrooms promote language rich environments.
- All classrooms have a reading area and books on display to promote a love of reading.

In a Typical Classroom:

- A range of whole class reading / book talk tasks will take place weekly and will be linked to the children's interests and linked to their age-related expectations.
- A range of texts are used across the curriculum - fictional, non-fiction, poetry.
- In FS / KS1, Monster Phonics reading books will be used that enable the pupils to phonetically decode. Some pupils in KS2 may also continue to read Monster Phonics decodable reading books to support their reading skills.

- The Oxford Reading Scheme is used where pupils will read books from this scheme up to Dark Red+. The pupil's reading understanding and reading ability need to be assessed by a teacher before they become a 'free' reader. 'Free' readers will then be monitored and guided by the class teacher to read a wide range of suitable texts.
- Daily phonics teaching sessions (EYFS, KS1 and KS2 where needed).
- Interactive reading environments are prominent in classrooms.
- Home reading is logged on an online platform; Learning with Parents and is promoted and praised through the use of a 'Reading Racers' tracker in every classroom.
- Shared reading such as echo reading and choral reading is evident in classrooms to promote the fluency of reading.
- Year 1 - 6 participate in Whole Class Reading sessions, where pupils will have the opportunity to learn about and read a range of texts, whilst developing key reading skills.
- Pupils have the opportunity to read out loud a range of texts and also reading their pieces of written work for an audience - assemblies, performances, drama activities etc.
- Targeted pupils receive additional support through a range of intervention programs.
- Each class has a timetabled reading time / 'Book Club' for at least 10 minutes a day.

#### Reading for Pleasure at Heron Cross:

- Pupils have a timetabled library slot where they have the opportunity to take books out of our newly furnished library on a weekly basis.
- Pupils participate in immersive themed events such as World Book Day.
- A range of high-quality picture books are read and shared during assemblies.
- Themed days are planned in to the pupils' learning to enhance and enrich our curriculum.
- Displays celebrate texts and authors and promoting a love of reading from members of staff.
- Reading corners / areas and roleplays are used to promote a love of reading and to support pupils' learning.
- Each class has a timetabled story time every day.
- Reading lunchtime and afterschool clubs are in place to promote the love of reading and support the reading time of the pupils.
- Pupils access a range of different texts such as reading books, websites and apps (GetEpic) and different clips (Literacy Shed resources).
- X2 Book fair events throughout the school year.
- A book vending machine is used as a reward system for reading.

#### Home reading at Heron Cross:

- All pupils will be expected to read 5 times a week.
- Parents are to log their child's reading on the Learning with Parents digital reading log.
- Pupils are given Dojos and prizes for reading at home.
- Pupils are rewarded with 'Reader of the Week' and get to choose a book from the vending machine.