

How we teach English at Kenningtons Primary Academy

"The most important thing is to read as much as you can. It will give you a good understanding of what makes good writing, and it will enlarge your vocabulary". J.K. Rowling

What do Readers and Authors do?

- Read for pleasure and read for information,
- Show their comprehension of texts in a range of ways
- Compare texts by reading deeply and critically
- Read and write a range of genres
- Write sentences which are technically accurate using a range of punctuation
- Bring their own experiences when reading and writing texts, drawing on a range of ambitious vocabulary
- Use speaking and listening skills within English to develop their ideas

Intent

At Kenningtons Primary Academy, we follow the National Curriculum. We believe that a secure basis in literacy skills is the gateway to a high-quality education and will give our children the tools they need to participate fully as a member of society.

We want to inspire children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening, to be equipped with a breadth and depth of language to communicate and further their learning.

We aim to ignite an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a habit of reading widely and often.

We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately, and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts.

Implementation

Reading:

- Our teachers at Kenningtons have adopted the Monster Phonics scheme. From Nursery to Year 2, we have a daily phonics lesson. If by the end of year 2, we have not passed our phonics screening, we continue to have phonics intervention so that we can catch up.
- We learn to read books by starting with picture books. In Reception and KS1, our reading books are carefully matched to the phonics stage we are learning, and we take home a reading pack every week to help us practise. We must read with an adult at home, at least four times each week. In KS2, we have access to our excellent library where we can take home reading books that are matched to our teacher assessed reading level.
- In reading lessons, the approach changes according to our age. Within these lessons we learn the skills to be able to engage with a range of genres.

Writing

- Writing is taught through a genre focus approach. This ensures that we fully understand and rehearse the features of a genre before writing our own.
- We work towards a final outcome which we collect in our 'Boasting Books' to demonstrate the progress we have made
- The spellings we must learn are clearly mapped and lists are sent home weekly for us to learn. On a weekly basis we are tested, culminating in a half termly spelling bee. We love collecting our spelling bee badges!
- Grammar is taught in context with the genre we are studying

Speaking and Listening

- We develop our speaking and listening skills in English lessons and in other subjects

Impact

We will demonstrate our learning within the English curriculum through our books, displays, in our conversations with teachers and by the vocabulary we use.