

The Curriculum

Most year groups are following the new curriculum for English (it used to be called literacy) which became statutory in 2014. From September 2015 Year 6 and Year 2 will also be following the new curriculum for English fully.

However, all teachers are aware of the objectives of the new curriculum for English and are integrating the two where required.

Our teaching of English is cross-curricular and draws on the many enrichment activities enjoyed by the pupils at St George's. The national curriculum for English can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study>

Where the teaching of specific types of writing is concerned we follow our own long term plan which is matched to the new 2014 curriculum:

[St George's R C Primary English LTP](#)

The Spoken Word

All of the staff at St George's RC Primary School are aware of the importance of helping children to develop their speaking skills. Opportunities for speaking and listening are taught regularly in English lessons and through guided reading.

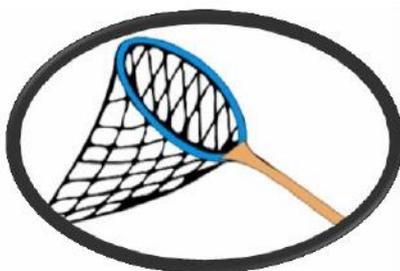
Most importantly, drama, songs, music, role play, talk for writing and frequent child-led celebrations, class based liturgies and acts of worship represent a major part of our learning at St. George's.

Children improve their English by:

LISTENING ~ SPEAKING ~ READING ~ WRITING

Fish, Find, Fathom and Feel

You may hear your child mention these terms. They are child-friendly words that we use to talk to the children about their reading comprehension. Reading comprehension goes beyond the ability simply to read words: it is what we **do** with texts whenever we read, whether for pleasure or practical purposes. The pupils at St George's learn to understand their own reading skills as they develop: they know what they can do well and what skills they need to learn next. The range of reading skills the pupils learn at St George's, and the confidence with reading that the pupils develop, are fundamental parts of their learning. Without these skills, our children could not access other elements of our curriculum.



Fish



Find



Fathom



Feel

Reading Schemes

We learn to read ~ then we read to learn.

To teach reading we use the Oxford Reading Tree scheme at school because the children tell us that they love the characters and that the stories are fun. We also use the Project X scheme and the Project X code scheme. Our reading schemes include fiction and non-fiction so that our children are taught to read using a variety of texts. We also encourage our children to read OUT LOUD at home every night if possible.



Phonics

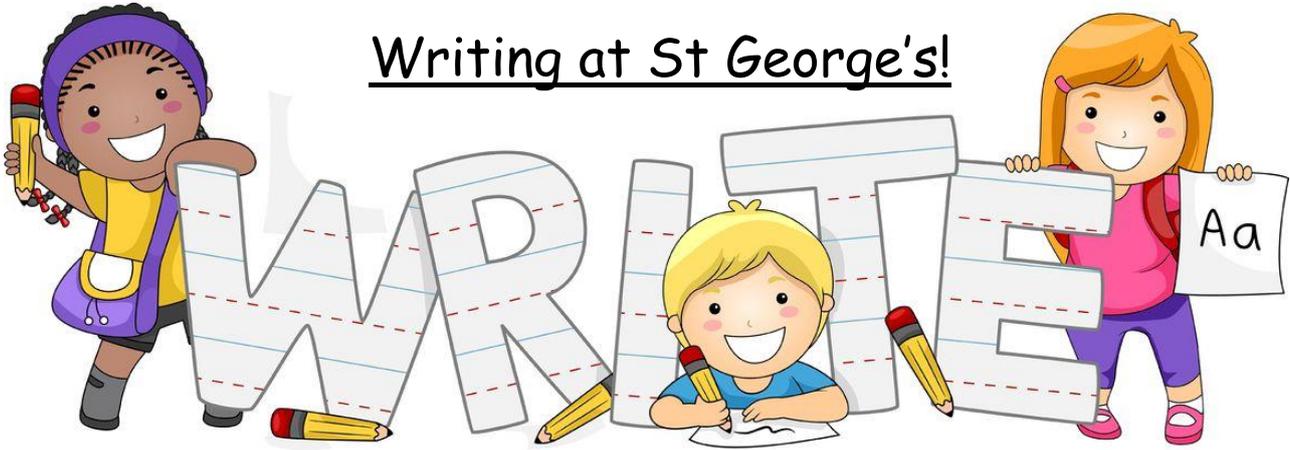
Phonics is taught using a mixture of the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics scheme and teaching sight reading of our STAR words. STAR words are the high frequency words that are not phonetically plausible such as: SAID, WAS and OF.

PHONIC THE HEDGEHOG also helps us with our phonics and our 'Sound of the day!'

A very high emphasis is put on reading and phonics in EY and KS1. Our aim is to make all of our children confident and fluent readers.



Writing at St George's!



NEWS

Every Monday morning it is NEWS TIME! We write our weekend news and illustrate our work. In KS1 and lower KS2 we use newspaper templates to make our weekend news look just like a real newspaper.

"We even get to read our news out at the end of the lesson with the BBC News logo behind us on the white board! It's fun." Year 3 child.

BIG WRITE!

Every Friday morning we take part in BIG WRITE! Each week we choose a different genre such as: a formal letter, a story or a set of instructions.

"We love writing and our teachers make sure that when it is time for BIG WRITE our classrooms are quiet and calm. We sometimes play Mozart music in the background, have nice candles on our tables and even have a little snack of raisins to keep us going!" KS1 child.