



## Reading

Reading is a vital tool for learning and for life. At Churchdown Parton Manor Schools' Federation we believe pupils should encounter an environment in which they are surrounded by books and other reading material presented in an inviting and attractive way.

In order to develop a love of reading we have:

- welcoming book areas in all classrooms
- a school library hosting a variety of books
- a wide range of books on display –
- a print-rich environment in all classrooms (alphabet charts, working walls, word banks, dictionaries, etc.)

### Phonics

The children at the Infant School take part in high-quality phonics sessions every day. These are fun sessions involving lots of speaking, listening and games, where the emphasis is on children's active participation. They learn to use their phonic knowledge for reading and writing activities and in their independent work. We teach phonics using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised scheme. This programme teaches children to decode words phonetically by introducing them to different phonemes and graphemes (sounds) step by step through phases 2-5.

### Reading Scheme

The children read books that match their phonic knowledge. The books have been carefully organised so that the children are successful readers and only encounter words they know or can sound out. During guided reading times the children will focus on blending, fluency and comprehension of the text. The main schemes we use for teaching reading in school are 'Phonics Bug', 'Hero Academy' and 'Big Cat Phonics for Letters and Sounds'.

Once the children have reached a level of fluency in reading at phase 5, we move to the 'Book Band' system. This means that all the reading books have been sorted into coloured levels in accordance with reading development. It allows children to choose a book at an appropriate level from the selection available. By colour banding our books we are able to put a variety of different scheme books in one level, providing children with greater choice of text and genre.