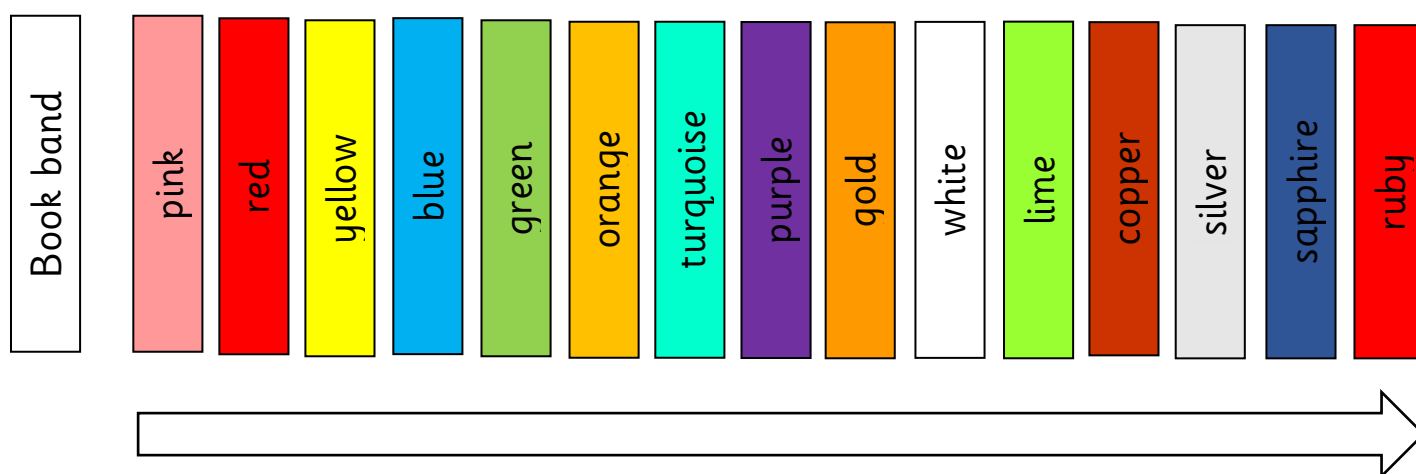


## Reading at Magdalen Primary School

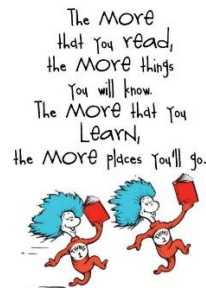
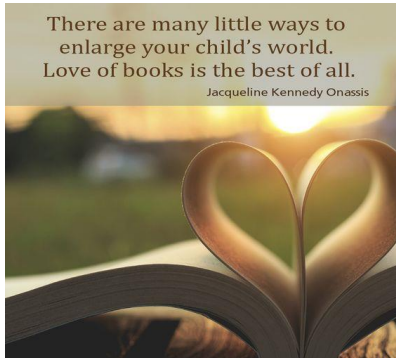
At the Magdalen Primary School we teach reading using several different types of activity. We initially teach our children to read and write using phonics which is where we split words up into individual sounds (please see the phonics information contained on the school website). We also use 1:1 reading with an adult, shared or guided reading in a small group, whole-class text sharing and independent reading. Once children become confident with reading a few sounds they are given lots of opportunities to read books.

Each classroom has a reading area where children are able to read a wide variety of different books. We also have a newly refurbished school library. Each child has a book to take home and read with you. The books we have in school are colour coded according to the reading ability needed to read the text. This is based on a combination of the words in the text and the skills needed to understand the book (comprehension). The colours of our books are in the diagram below, remember that every child is different and will progress through the different stages at different rates. The most important thing for your child is that they develop the skills they need to read and hopefully a love of reading!



When children are confidently reading all the words in the books in their colour band and are able to answer questions about what they are reading they will be assessed in school. During the assessment children will read a book to an adult and answer questions about the book. This is what usually happens when reading with an adult so the process of assessment shouldn't be worrying. After children have been assessed they will either move to the next colour of books or will remain on the same colour books. If children remain on the same colour books this is because we feel they need a bit more practice to become confident with what they are reading. Every child is unique and will progress through the different stages

at different rates. The most important thing for your child is that they develop the skills they need to read and hopefully a love of reading!



## **Home reading**

We believe that reading at home with your child is one of the best things you can do to help them with their learning! All children will have either a colour coded reading book or a free reader book from the library to read at home. Remember that there are many, many other books that you might want to share with your child. At school we have a book bank which children can choose a book to bring home and read. You could also borrow books from the library in Wainfleet or Skegness.

When reading at home it can be helpful to choose a set time every day to read with your child. Encourage your child to read by sounding out the words and blending the sounds together. As your child becomes more confident with reading they will no longer need to sound out every word and will just be able to read them. An important part of reading with your child is talking about what they have read. Can your child explain to you what is happening in the story? Can they talk about what they think might happen next? Maybe they might link what they are reading to something they have done for example if you are reading about a beach they might talk about when they visited the beach. This discussion is really important during reading as it shows that they have actually understood what they have read and are thinking about it!

If you would like any advice about how to read with your child at home please speak to your child's class teacher and they will be more than happy to help where they can!

## **Story time**

In school we aim to share our enthusiasm for reading with the children who we hope will love reading too! Every class will share a story every day. The story might be chosen because it is related to what children are currently learning or it could just be a story we love! Children are encouraged to think about the story and it is used as a discussion point.

## **Reception**

During the first few weeks in reception children are given books to take home which have no words. This means they can use the pictures to make up their own story. Children also have word cards to help them to learn the common tricky words, which are words we can't sound out using our phonics, that they will find in books. Children practice these word cards in school every week. As children learn the first few sounds and the words from their word cards they will be given books with words in. Children read these books individually with an adult at school every week. You can help your child by reading their book with them at home and practicing the sounds and tricky words which you find in them. When reading children are also encouraged to think about what they are reading and answer questions about what is happening in the book, this is called reading for meaning.

In school children will continue to be heard read individually with an adult each week and as they become more confident readers they will begin shared and eventually guided reading. During shared reading children will be in a small group, usually no more than 6 children, who have a book each, and an adult. The adult will read the book and children will follow the words and discuss what is happening in the book, make predictions about what they think may happen and begin to read words for themselves. As children become familiar with talking about what they are reading there will be more emphasis on the children reading the books themselves. Once children are able to read a book by themselves this is then called guided reading. Children will begin shared or guided reading in reception during the Spring term.

## **KS1 (Year 1 and 2)**

In Key Stage 1 children continue to take part in guided reading and are listened to read individually by an adult every week. During guided reading children will work in a small group with an adult where each child will have a copy of the same book. Each guided reading session will have an aim, often these sessions are used to teach reading skills and encourage children to think about what they are reading.

In Year 2 children will begin to have whole class comprehension lessons where children are explicitly taught comprehension skills such as skim reading. In Year 2 children will complete a reading comprehension as part of their SATs.

## **KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

In Key Stage 2 children continue to take part in guided reading and key children are listened to read individually by an adult. Guided reading will take place in a similar way however after the guided reading session children will start to be given independent tasks to complete related to the book they have read. In Key Stage 2 our aim is for children to become independent readers who can use the skills they have learnt to find out information for themselves.

Children will continue to have whole class comprehension lessons and in Year 6 children will complete a reading comprehension as part of their SATs.