

## English at Buttsbury

At Buttsbury Primary School the intent of our broad and balanced English curriculum is to offer rich and vibrant opportunities which include, and go beyond the boundaries of, children's experiences. The curriculum is designed so that it is ambitious for all learners; with knowledge, skills and concepts outlined in an age-appropriate and progressive way. We intend for the children to become competent and confident readers, writers and users of language in all its forms for a range of purposes and audiences.

### How is English implemented at Buttsbury Primary School?

Units of learning are blocked, well sequenced and build on previous learning. Lessons ensure that progress is achieved through small steps, allowing children to develop their subject knowledge, consolidate skills and apply their learning. Strands in English include: Reading (word reading and comprehension). Writing (composition, transcription, GPS and handwriting). Children are given the opportunity to master their learning by 'applying what they have learnt to a new situation'.

At Buttsbury Primary school, learning in English may include:

- Opportunities to speak with confidence, clarity and fluency in appropriate forms of speech
- To speak and listen in both partner and group tasks in informal and formal contexts.
- Use drama to explore characters' thoughts and motives to embed understanding.
- Active promotion of a love of reading.
- Read core texts that cover a wide range of genres, carefully selected to challenge the children and to expose them to a variety of high-quality books. These texts are used for the children to write for a range of purposes and within a range of genres.
- In KS1 explicitly taught guided reading lessons which help children develop the reading skills needed to allow them to develop pace, fluency and their understanding of texts.
- Through explicitly taught comprehension lessons in KS2, children develop the reading skills allowing them to access texts and develop a deep understanding.
- To analyse high quality examples of texts: identifying features, language and grammatical structures to innovate own written ideas.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar taught implicitly through core texts in KS1.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons are explicitly taught in KS2 and then children are encouraged to embed these rules through their writing.
- Developing ideas through a cycle of: drafting, editing and publishing.
- Children are encouraged to explore writing through different genres and using the application of ICT to both research and present information.
- Developing a legible, joined cursive handwriting through explicit handwriting sessions.

### What is the impact of the English curriculum on our children?

Our curriculum encourages an ambitious attitude towards mastery in English. Teachers understand and respect each child has their own creative and individual author's voice. The clear learning sequence allows for children to explore a variety of genres, consider how English has developed through heritage and culture, developing grammatical structures which can then be later applied to their writing. The children are given opportunities to write across the curriculum, embedding their English skills: demonstrating a mastery approach. As a result of our English curriculum, children are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills for the next stage of their education at secondary school.

### What our children say about English

**Reception:** 'I like different kinds of books.'

**KS1:** 'I like it when the reader makes the story funny.'

'I like it when we share books and read to each other.'

**LKS2:** 'I love Book Club!'

'Reading makes me feel relaxed.'

**UKS2:** 'I love being hooked on a book and I just can't stop reading.'

'I like helping other people read.'