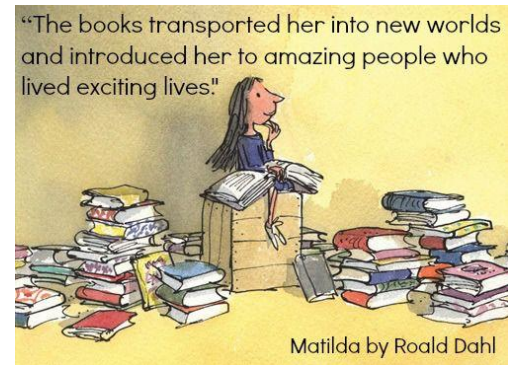


Developing Fluency

At the end of that last academic year the Department for Education released an update to their Reading Framework, as a school we were thrilled that many of the recommendations were things that we at Estfeld already focus on and regard as extremely important for our children. The main points being about supporting children on their reading journey, promoting a love of reading and reading for pleasure, with an emphasis on children becoming fluent readers and reading a wide range of books that they enjoy. With this in mind we thought this would be a good opportunity to share with you again some information on the importance of developing fluency in reading.



At Tickhill Estfeld we strive to do the best for the children in our care. With this in mind, we are continually updating our practise based on the needs of the children and recommendations from the government and recent educational research.

Over the past few years we have focused on phonics and reading throughout school and as you are aware we have made changes to the phonics programme we use in school. We have invested a lot of time to ensure our phonics and reading scheme best support our children as they progress on their reading journey. We have also invested in new reading books which your child will now be enjoying.

Reading and a text rich curriculum is something we are passionate about at Tickhill Estfeld. We aim to develop a love for reading for all our pupils as well as encouraging them to be the best reader they can be. In order to support children in their reading we want to encourage them to become fluent readers and to feel successful about their own abilities. We feel this is an important skill for all pupils to develop to further progress in their reading.

'Fluency is the ability to read a text accurately, quickly, and with expression. Reading fluency is important because it provides a bridge between word recognition and comprehension.'

(Reading rockets)

The best way to develop fluency is to re-read a text so that it becomes familiar to a child once they have decoded (sounded out) any unfamiliar words. By re-reading a text, children should then become more confident and rely on sounding out less. In turn this will help children understand a text better and to be able to answer questions about what they are reading, allowing them to enjoy the story more. It is always beneficial to get children to read their reading book once and then re-read it again the following day, I am sure you will be impressed at how much more fluent they are the second time round. If you ever want to keep your child's reading book for longer to be able to do this please do write a comment in your child's reading record and we will allow for this.

I am aware that as the children move on to lengthier books it is hard to read a text and re-read again but books by the same author will have a familiar writing pattern and may help children to continue developing their fluency. Re reading just a simple passage or chapter will also help develop fluency.

Many Thanks

Mrs Slack