

*"So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray,
Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install,
A lovely bookshelf on the wall"*

Road Dahl: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Our aim at Milldene Primary School is:

- To develop happy, healthy and curious learners, who read confidently and independently;
- To enable the children to develop a lifelong enjoyment and pleasure in reading;
- To enable the children to access, understand and begin to manage information;
- To enable the children to understand the meaning of what is read to them and what they read;
- To enable the children to understand and respond to the feelings that words can arouse in us like happiness, sadness and anger;
- To enable the children to understand that this experience allows us to make connections with other people;
- To enable the children to walk through doors to the past, to the future and to other worlds, both real and imagined;
- To enable the children to identify and appreciate authors style and devices to support their own writing.

We do this by:

- **Providing a reading scheme to enable children to become confident readers.** In the main, our reading scheme is based on The Oxford Reading Tree. There are other books within the scheme to provide variety and a chance to experience 'real books'. Each book is graded using a colour. We aim to frequently check children are reading books at an appropriate level.
- **Reading with individual children.** This continues throughout school. However, it is more frequent during the early years of your child's education as this helps them rapidly pick up skills for decoding words.
- **Accelerated Reader.** Please see our separate section about our exciting approach to reading in the juniors.
- **Guided reading.** From reception class onwards, children read in guided groups. This is much like a 'book club'. The focus of these groups is to skill the children up in understanding and questioning what they are reading. Once the children are confident in decoding words, understanding the text they are reading becomes the main focus.
- **Interventions for phonics for reading.** This is for those children who need extra support in picking up decoding strategies.
- **Interventions for reading comprehension.** Though some children may be able to read and decode easily, they can often find it hard to gain an understanding of a text. We support children in small groups and individually using schemes such as 'Reading and Understanding' and 'Inference Training'.
- **Promoting a love of fiction, with themed book days.**
- **Allowing time for children to share their enjoyment of books through discussions.**
- **Providing a well stocked library so that the children have access to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.**