



# St. Saviour's RC Primary School



*Pray Together, Learn Together, Stronger Together in Jesus*

Reception coffee morning about  
reading



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Welcome!



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### **What the children learn in Reception?**

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) has its own curriculum which covers children from birth to the end of their Reception year.

### **There are 7 Areas of Learning and Development**

**Prime Areas:** Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED);  
Communication and Language (CL);  
Physical Development (PD).

### **Specific Areas: Literacy (L);**

Mathematics (M);  
Understanding the World (UW);  
Expressive Arts and Design (EAD).



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### **How do the children learn to read?**



We follow the Letters and Sounds (DFE 2007) phonics programme delivered in 6 Phases from Nursery to at least Year 2.

Phonics consists of:

- 4 main concepts (principles/ ideas)
- Knowledge of letters
- The 2 skills of blending and segmenting

**Concept 1: sounds** (phonemes) are represented by letters (graphemes). English is an alphabetic language, all sounds in each word are represented by letters. Young children need to learn and know words are not sets of meaningless squiggles.



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**Concept 2:** a sound (phoneme) can be represented by one or more letters:  
for example:            t; kn; igh; kn- igh- t = knight.

**Concept 3:** the same sound can be represented (spelt) more than one way:  
for example:            cat; kitten; choir

**Concept 4:** the same letter (spelling) may represent more than one sound:  
for example:   mean/deaf;   crown/flown;   field/tried

**Blending...** merging sounds together to produce a word. To read an unfamiliar word a child must know a sound for each letter or letter combination in the word and then merge them together to pronounce the word.

**...and segmenting...** hearing individual sounds within a word; for example 'crash' has 4 sounds 'c-r-a-sh'. In order to spell a child must segment a word into it's sounds and choose a letter or letter combination (eg 'sh') to represent the sounds.



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**Knowledge of letters:**

- There are 44 sounds in the English language;
- Children learn to blend sounds orally first and then begin to segment orally;
- In phases 2 and 3 children learn to pronounce the sounds themselves in response to letters before blending them.

In Reception the children first learn to **hear** sounds (phonemes) and **blend** them together to say a word, for example c-a-t = 'cat', then match to a picture of a cat.

They then learn to **hear** the sounds **in order** in a word to be able to **segment** them, for example 'dog' d-o-g.

Alongside learning to sound and blend, they learn to **sight read 'tricky words'** that cannot be sounded and blended for example 'the'.

Your child then begins to build their **sight vocabulary** so they are able to develop their **fluency** (smoothness) in reading and their reading for **meaning and understanding**. This can be developed from the beginning by asking questions about what they have read.



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Your child brings home a reading book to share at home. The expectation is for you or another adult, **to listen to your child read every night for about 10 minutes and to date and sign their Reading Record book.** There is a space for you to comment if you can, the comments are read and appreciated. We aim to hear your child read at school once a week and to change the books twice a week.

[www.stsaviours.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.stsaviours.lewisham.sch.uk)



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