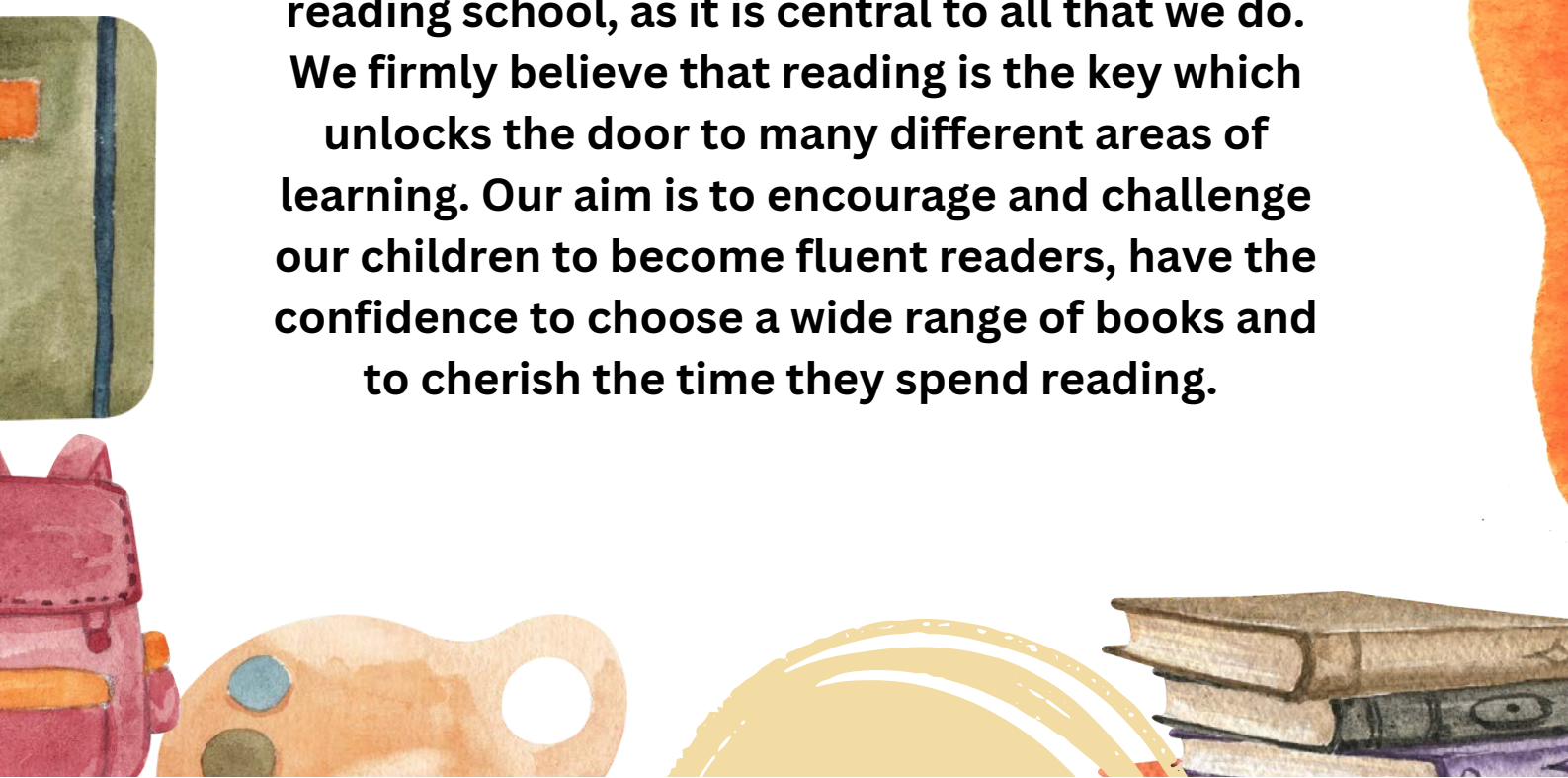




Reading at Austhorpe

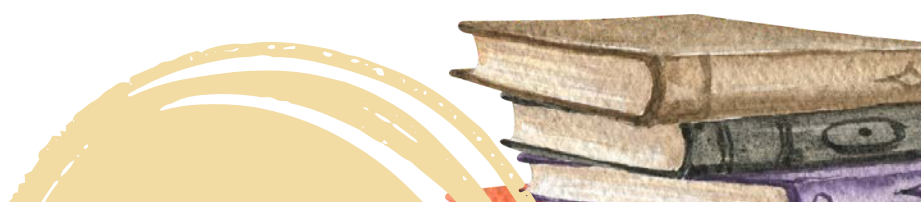


Here at Austhorpe we proudly call ourselves a reading school, as it is central to all that we do. We firmly believe that reading is the key which unlocks the door to many different areas of learning. Our aim is to encourage and challenge our children to become fluent readers, have the confidence to choose a wide range of books and to cherish the time they spend reading.



Reading at Austhorpe


Children begin in Reception on the Read Write Inc. scheme (see separate Read Write Inc. tab in the curriculum section and Early Reading at Austhorpe link for further details of the scheme) and have usually completed it midway through Year 2. We have a proven track record in the teaching of phonics at Austhorpe. All children are monitored closely and the vast majority make steady or rapid progress through the scheme. For children who need extra help, we deploy adults to work with children in small intervention groups.






Reading at Austhorpe

Once our children are off the scheme they continue to be closely monitored to ensure that their levels of fluency are developing. Alongside the phonics books, our children also take home books from our reading scheme. With the help of reading experts, we have purchased books with exciting stories and relevant, modern themes. We have exciting, challenging books for every reading age, including higher ability readers in year 6.



Many of the books in the reading scheme are relatively short, but this does not mean that they are easy or not pitched at the correct level. Your child's reading levels and associated book bands are monitored very closely. The reading scheme books allow every child to access a regular 'diet' of vocabulary, grammar and spellings appropriate to their reading age. These books also allow children to practise the comprehension of texts, to read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction, including stories from authors from the literary canon and to read aloud with intonation and expression.



Reading at Austhorpe



Of course, children who are on the scheme are also entitled to read books from our enticing libraries. Our school has two well-stocked libraries with an excellent range of books from a variety of authors that will help the children take part in the Raving Readers and Readingo challenges. Each class has a dedicated time-slot where they can visit the library; they have time to browse and more importantly talk about the books which excite them.

The children in Key Stage 2 also have the opportunity to join a Book Club. These clubs allows children the opportunity to discuss with like-minded readers the plot lines, characters and authors which really interest them.

Beacon Books



Our most advanced readers, who have worked their way through the reading scheme will move onto our “Beacon Books”. This will include many classic and well-known titles, books that are thought provoking, challenging yet age-appropriate. We have also developed a “Beacon Book” reading list for each year group. This will be a range of books which we feel every child will benefit from reading: books that will stimulate interest, capture imaginations and encourage a lifetime of reading for pleasure.

Once children have read a good selection of these books, they will have built up a rich and diverse literary knowledge and experience which will give them so much pleasure and enjoyment for years to come. If children can move on to high school with a broad and diverse range of texts and genres behind them it will be of enormous benefit when they come to study much more challenging literature.



Reciprocal Reading

When the children are able to read with a good level of fluency we move them on to focus on their reading comprehension skills. We do this through a discussion technique called Reciprocal Reading.

Reciprocal Reading can be developed through any text type. This approach ensures that all learners can access the curriculum which is not always the case with individual reading. Of course, individual reading is still encouraged and the two fit hand in hand in order to develop the children's skills in the following areas: previewing; self-questioning; knowing how words work; visualising; making connections; summarising and evaluating.





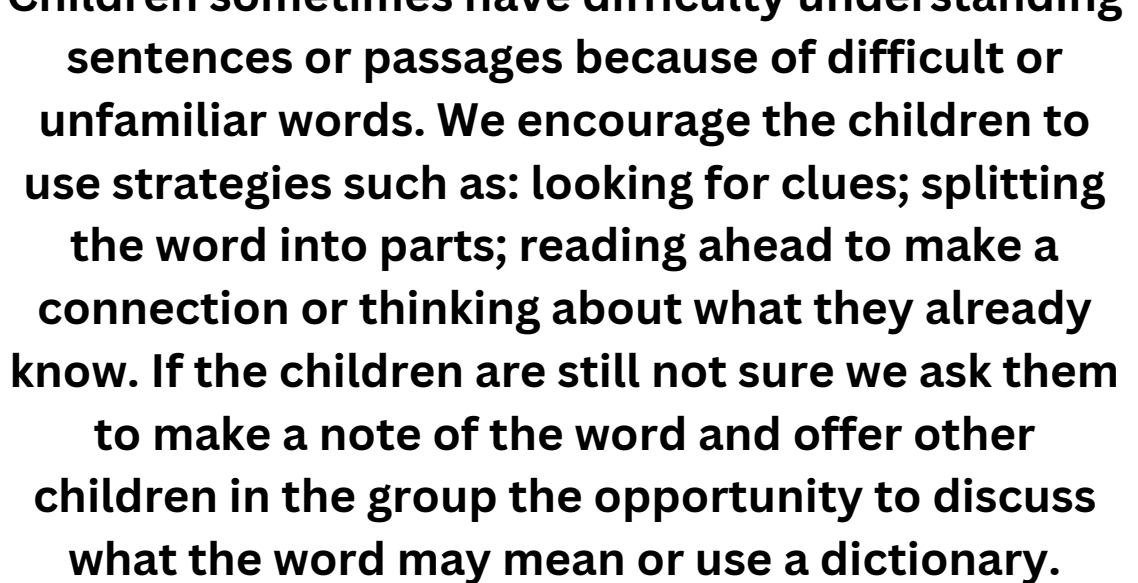
Reciprocal Reading

Reciprocal Reading involves four main reading strategies: 1) Predicting, 2) Clarifying, 3) Questioning and 4) Summarising.

PREDICTING

The children are encouraged to anticipate what will happen next. This can be through their prior knowledge of the author's style, making connections between the book's illustrations or what has happened in the previous section to the one which is currently being studied. Predictions can be made about the setting, characters, problems or key events in the text.

CLARIFYING



Children sometimes have difficulty understanding sentences or passages because of difficult or unfamiliar words. We encourage the children to use strategies such as: looking for clues; splitting the word into parts; reading ahead to make a connection or thinking about what they already know. If the children are still not sure we ask them to make a note of the word and offer other children in the group the opportunity to discuss what the word may mean or use a dictionary.



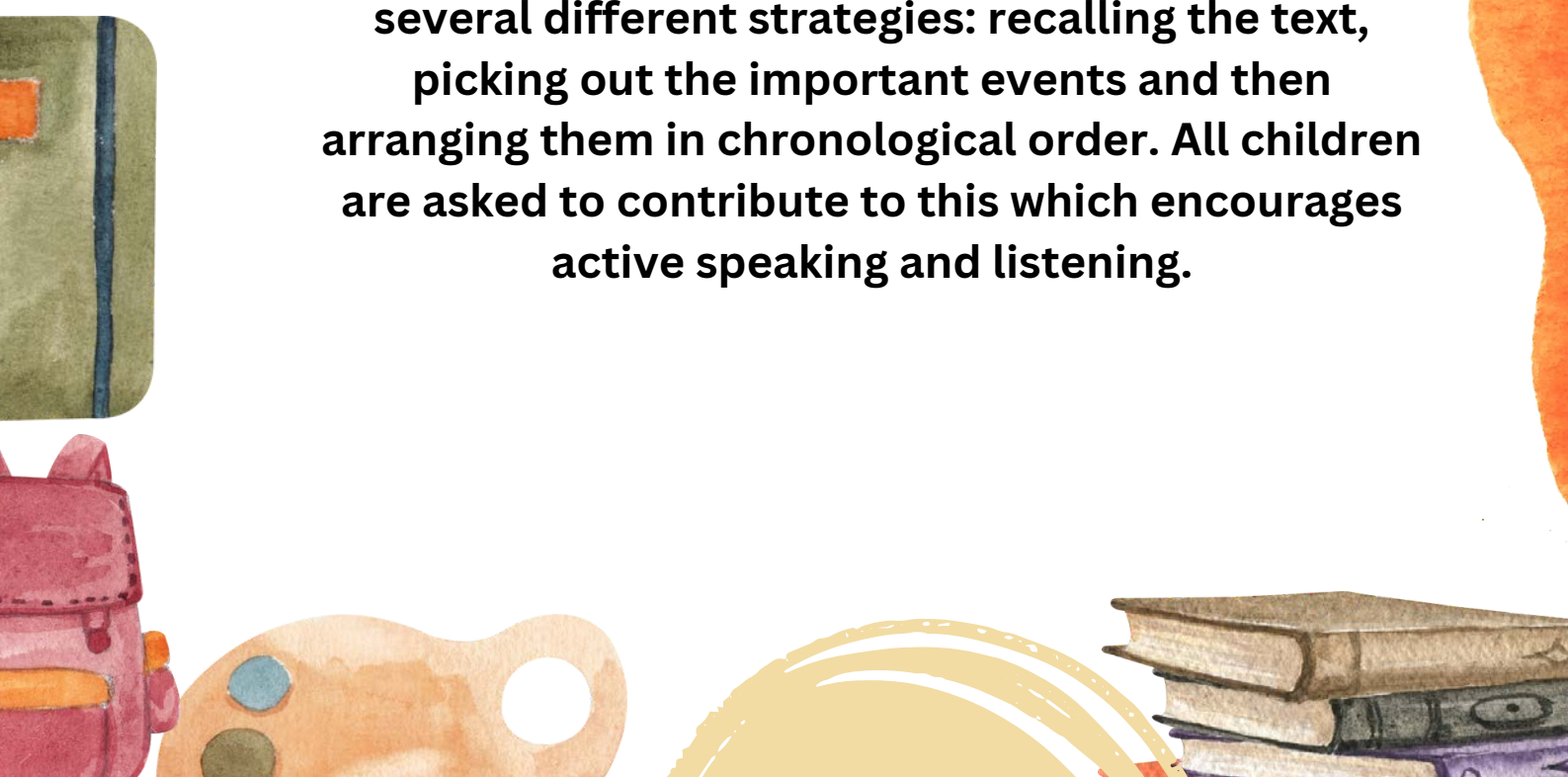
Reciprocal Reading

QUESTIONING

Good readers ask questions as they read. When the children know that they will be required to think of a question about the text (whether that be a simple 'literal' question or a more in-depth 'inference' question), they read with a heightened awareness of the main ideas. The children are encouraged to write down questions for other members of the group to answer. As their skills develop, they will be able to pose questions which involve inference and hidden meanings, word patterns, bias, persuasion and imagery.

SUMMARISING

This is a difficult skill as the children have to use several different strategies: recalling the text, picking out the important events and then arranging them in chronological order. All children are asked to contribute to this which encourages active speaking and listening.





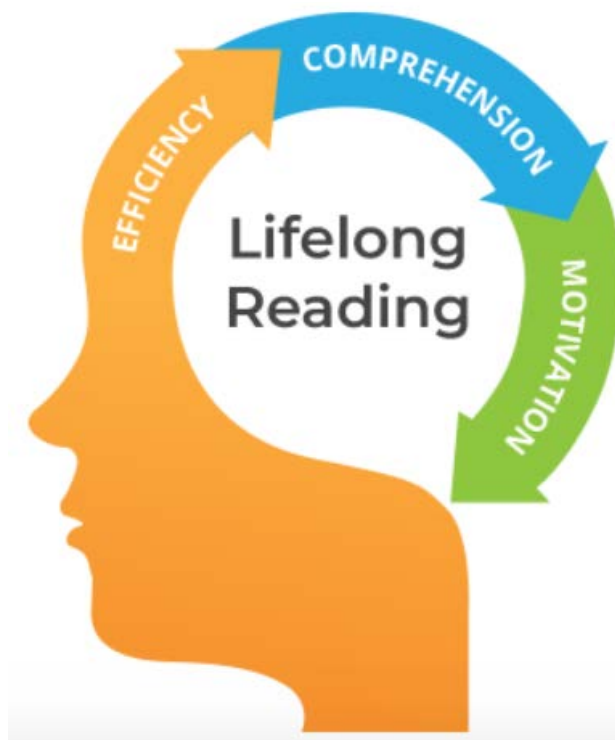
Reciprocal Reading

Reciprocal Reading does not necessarily completely replace the need for traditional whole class teaching of reading comprehension. For example, whole class novels will often involve discussions around the classroom about characters, plot lines or what will happen next. However, these discussions are enhanced through the application of the skills which are acquired by children on a daily basis in their small-group Reciprocal Reading work.

As with all the stages in reading development, your child's learning will be accelerated by practising at home. The opportunity for your child to show you their burgeoning blending, decoding or comprehension skills is one not to be missed!



Reading Plus



Reading Plus is an adaptive literacy solution that improves fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, stamina, and motivation. It is a highly intuitive and supportive online program which is used in Upper Key Stage 2. The children are excited by the number and variety of texts available and are motivated to read as much as possible, all the while improving their reading fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills.



Reading for Pleasure



Here at Austhorpe we aim to promote a love of reading across a broad curriculum. We have a number of motivational initiatives which are successful in helping to embed our philosophy that every child should become a lifelong learner through the vehicle of reading for pleasure and study.

Reading Ambassadors

We have Reading Ambassadors in every class to ensure that reading for pleasure has the highest profile possible. The ambassadors look after our Beacon Books and offer recommendations to others.



Reading for Pleasure



Raving Readers

Austhorpe's Raving Reader scheme is vital in supporting children in developing their reading and making fantastic progress. Raving Reader records are used to demonstrate that children continue to read frequently at home, as well as in school. Rewards are available for children when they reach 25, 50, 100 and 200 home reading sessions. Reading Journals also contain age appropriate Top Tips for children, parents and carers to help them get the most out of reading at home. Ten reading activities, such as writing a book review or a letter to the author, are set for each year group. These are mixed in with other reading targets, such as reading whilst in a den, on a 'Readingo' card. Once the Readingo card is completed, we will buy your child a book of their choice.

Reading for Pleasure

Parental Engagement

We know that one of the best ways to get children reading is to get parents and carers involved! In Reception class we have our 'Mystery Readers'. We have regular visits from Red Riding Hood, witches etc who just love sharing a story with the children!

On a Thursday morning we have our 'Speedy Readers' in Years 1-4. This is a 10-minute slot before school where we invite family members in to listen to their child read.



Each Friday morning we hold a Book Exchange outside the reading shed. This is an opportunity for children to bring in well-read books and exchange them for another. We also encourage adults to do the same!

Reading for Pleasure



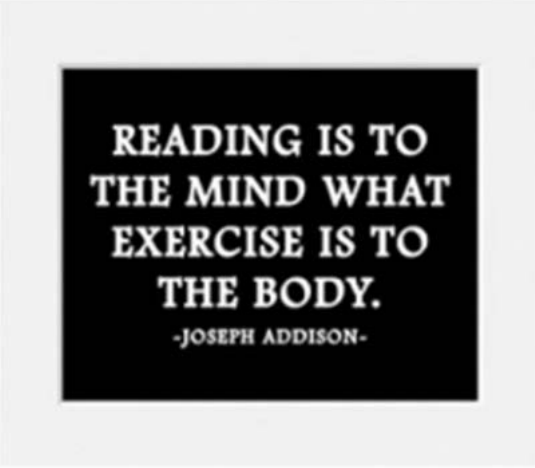
Class Novels

Each teacher carefully selects class novels to take into account the interests of both boys and girls. Every child has their own copy of these novels. These novels are used for discussion and promoting oracy, comprehension, cross-curricular links, writing hooks and also for whole class reading, which is prioritised in every class.

The importance of an adult reading to the whole class is not overlooked at Austhorpe, giving the children a chance to read and then hear unfamiliar words read to them. They also get to hear adults reading with expression from books which they are passionate about.



Reading for Pleasure

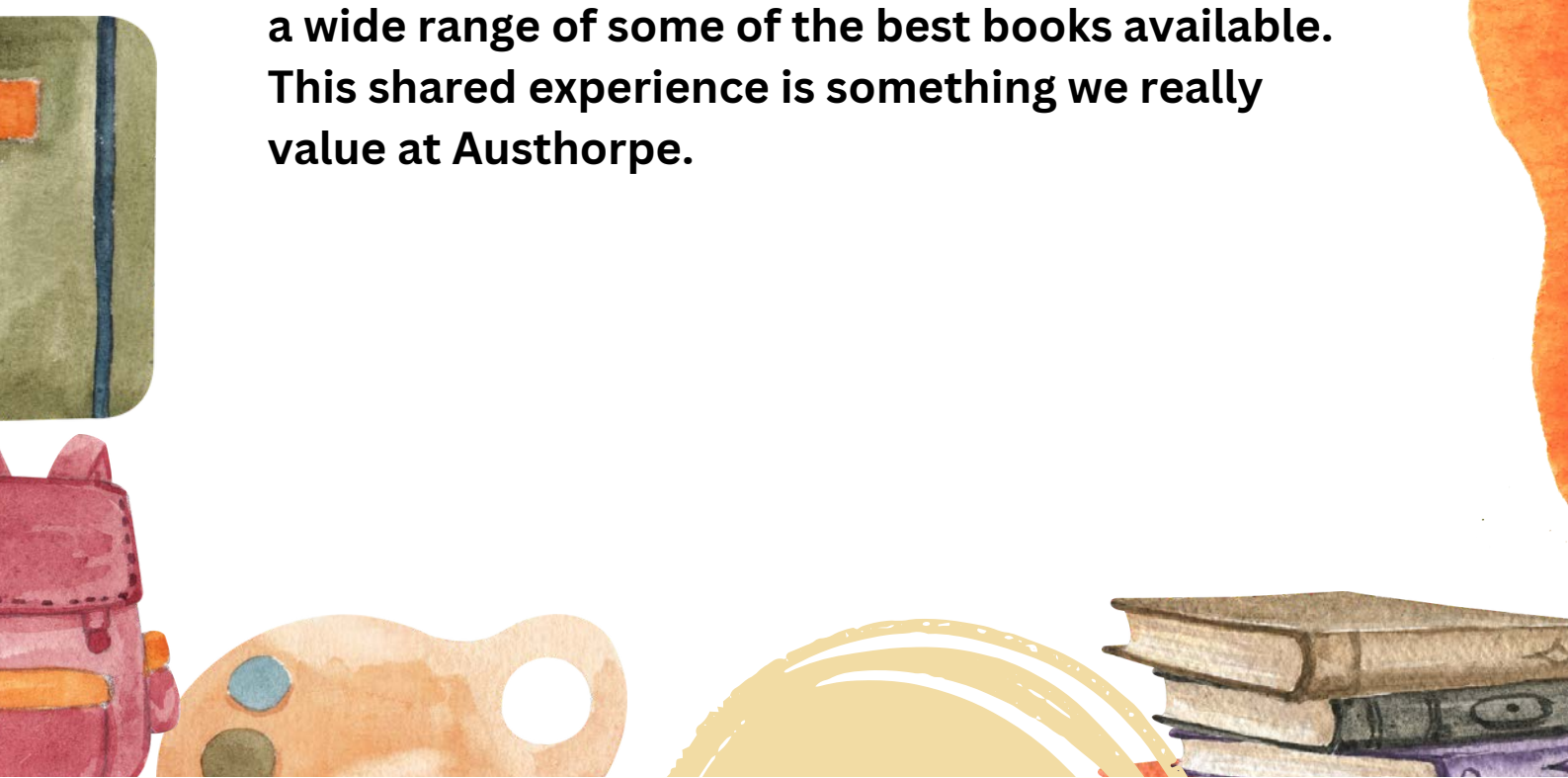


READING IS TO
THE MIND WHAT
EXERCISE IS TO
THE BODY.

-JOSEPH ADDISON-

Reading Carousel

Every Friday morning the children look forward to our reading carousel. Each adult gets a chance to visit different year groups on a rota basis, so that children can experience the passion and fun that a different adult, other than their own class teacher, can bring to reading out aloud. Staff choose their own books, but we ensure that we have a good mix of genres and authors, so that children experience a wide range of some of the best books available. This shared experience is something we really value at Austhorpe.



World Book Day



Each year we celebrate World Book Day in style! The children (and adults) really look forward to dressing up as a character from either a book they are reading or one of their favourite books. The whole day is planned around maximising the pleasure we can get from books - whether that be book quizzes, fairs, group reading, illustration and story writing tutorials, our World Book Day is one of the real highlights on our school calendar.