
**HOW WE LEARN IN
PRIMARY 1
AT
NEWTON FARM PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



READING

In Primary 1 we learn reading skills in lots of different ways...

Our teachers read us lots of stories many times so that we can learn stories off by heart.



We have 'shared reading' sessions where our teachers use big books to teach the skills to read a book. We look at key words and we learn to talk about stories and how to make predictions.



We learn 'common exception words' as part of our phonics lessons. These are accessible to us in our learning environments and at home.



We have phonics lessons in small groups so that we can learn the sounds of letters and groups of letters. We then use the sounds of letters to read and write words and sentences.



We read stories with our teachers and friends. We borrow books from our school library and we read picture books and phonics books at home each week using the 'Bug Club'.



We have Guided Reading sessions where we read copies of the same book in small groups. Our teacher sits with us and teaches us reading skills and how to understand what is happening in the story.



Most importantly, we learn to enjoy reading! We can choose a book from our class library to read by ourselves or with our teachers and friends!



WRITING

We do lots of different activities to help us to write...

We celebrate all kinds of mark making as it is the first step towards writing.



Sensory activities let us build up our hand muscles for writing. It also starts our excitement about making marks in fun ways.



We draw and make up stories so that we can learn how to tell stories. It helps us see ourselves as story tellers too,



In the morning we use pens to make marks and to start writing our names.



We have Guided Writing sessions where our teachers help us to work out what the sounds are in the words we want to write and how to write the sounds using letters. We use what we learnt in our phonics sessions to help us too.



We look at how sentences are put together by putting words in the correct order. We need to remember to use capital letters, fingers spaces and full stops.



We learn lots of skills through role play and 'real life' writing opportunities. We play with small world characters and puppets to develop our story telling and imaginative play.



Numeracy

Maths is involved in lots of our classroom activities...

We learn mathematical vocabulary to use in maths so we can explain our thinking and improve what we know.



We learn about numerical patterns using shapes, colours and manipulatives. We learn to count beyond 20 and to compare quantities using the resources in our environment. We also explore odd and even numbers.

We explore numbers in fun and exciting ways. We learn to subitise (to quickly recognize a visual representation of a number), and to recall our number bonds to 10. We look at number patterns and sequences with missing numbers.



Good mathematicians are problem solvers. We learn how to do this by developing our thinking skills, learning how to plan and how to test ideas whilst we play.

We learn about length and width by using objects to measure. We also use sand and water to explore maths in different ways such as capacity and fractions.



We check our answers by using a variety of concrete materials.



Where possible, role play is used to link maths to everyday experiences. We learn how to distribute quantities evenly and are encouraged to apply mathematical language to role play situations, for example, when playing games, in a shop or running a café in the home corner.

