Curriculum Design & Sequencing of Content

We teach children a text rich curriculum that is ambitious and designed to build on all previous learning, as children progress through school.

English units are organised into a linear sequence building on children's prior knowledge. All year groups study a element of English every day, which covers a variety of genres and objectives.

Reading

All English lessons are based upon a high quality text, carefully chosen by the teaching team to inspire, engage and enthuse the children in their classes. There are a wide number of skills covered in reading, such as: analysis of texts, inference, comprehension, prediction, retrieval, word level segmenting and blending.

Our children are encouraged to read widely and for pleasure, which we promote further with theme days, such as World Book Day. We reward children for reading at home and share texts they have enjoyed.

Each term a child from each class is nominated for our 'Eric Ashworth' reading award and celebrated in assembly. Each class has an end of day story to promote a love of reading.

English Leader

Our Curriculum Leader, Natalie Pickard, is responsible for developing the English curriculum across the school ensuring there is wide and varied coverage of all the English objectives.

English at Burton Joyce Primary School

English forms an important part of our curriculum. We follow the National curriculum and embrace a broad-spectrum of stimulating topics. As a school, we aim to inspire an enjoyment of reading and writing. Throughout our English curriculum we look for exciting and engaging ways to link age appropriate texts to our wider topics. Consequently, our lessons are well planned, engaging and challenge all children, who are encouraged to engage in meaningful discussions about what they have read and use a wide range of vocabulary within their written work.

UNITs

Children take part in daily UNITs (understanding and interpreting texts) lessons that focus primarily on developing their vocabulary, as well as enhancing their comprehension skills, whilst studying a range of genres and texts. Pupils read everyday during these sessions using a range of strategies such as teacher modelled reading, echo read, paired read and independent reading.

Spelling

In FS/KS1 our pupils spellings are linked with the sounds they have been learning in their daily phonics lessons and are tested at the end of each week.

Within KS2, pupils are assigned spellings following a spelling rule or teaching a particular spelling strategy. Pupils are taught 3 discrete spelling lessons a week and are tested at the end of each week on the spelling rule with some added challenge words. Pupils have access to the online spelling shed games to consolidate their learning.

Writing

We believe that it is vital that our children write often and for a wide range of purposes. The children focus on a variety of different genres throughout their English lessons, as well as being given the opportunity to write at length in topic lessons; such as science reports, historical analysis and geographical information.

Community links

We have built strong links with the local community, we often display examples of the children's writing in the local library. Members of the library come into school to read to the children and set competitions.