

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

## *Book Week Celebrations*

Karin Littlewood visited the school and shared her work as an author and illustrator.



Her assembly engaged the children with the story of 'Immi'. Some children wore Immi's clothes...



Others told their ideas to Karin and she helped to sketch them with the children. She encouraged children to use the phrases, "what if... maybe..." to develop ideas into treasured necklaces. Here she is working with children.



Children watched her use skills, colours, lines and techniques to bring the illustrations to life.



She listened...



...and talked with the children.



And finally, Reception children dressed as their favourite characters and told their own stories!





During the week, each class had their very own bedtime story read by the class teacher.



Children dressed up as their favourite book characters...



And everybody joined in the Busbridge Infant School Book Character Parade!



This is just a flavour of the exciting time the children had celebrating books and stories.

## Learning to Read

Children learn to read by understanding that the 26 letters of the alphabet are used to represent 44 sounds of the English Language system.

The way this is taught in our school is through a structured approach which divides the sounds into phases and these are taught to the children using a structured lesson sequence which consists of revisiting previously learnt sounds, introduction and teaching of new sounds, an opportunity to practise saying and forming the letter(s) and applying them through an activity.

The principles of this approach are from proven research which suggests that good quality teaching of phonics follows this structure. Additionally, staff will be receive further training on the teaching of phonics using a designated scheme which staff are currently researching the most effective one to have the best impact on children's learning.

Whilst this is underway, the teaching of reading remains a very high priority and children will be encouraged to develop their reading skills by bringing home a book to read for purpose i.e. one that is matched to the sounds they are learning and an additional 'choosy book' which is a book to enjoy reading for pleasure (this may be a book which you will need to share with your child). Your child will also bring home a reading record which is used to record the books which they read, and to provide useful information for teachers to note when planning the next steps for learning.

The teachers will continue to teach the skills of reading comprehension and inference skills along with the necessary skills to decode successfully. This will take the form of guided reading and reading whole class texts through storytime and dedicated reading sessions. Additional preparation is underway to refresh the quality of the texts which are used to engage children with learning about a topic.

We hope that by reading our new monthly Busbridge Infant School Bulletin, you will be aware of the developments of the school and its curriculum as it continues to develop even further. This will be in addition to the fortnightly newsletter providing you with key dates and reminders. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office by emailing [info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk) should you have any feedback about this. We look forward to hearing from you.