

Our Reading and Phonics Schemes

At St. John's, children begin their reading journey with the Read Write Inc. programme for primary school children. This is a phonics-based programme, which helps children learn to read whilst also developing a wide range of vocabulary and encouraging a love of stories.

In conjunction with Read Write Inc., Oxford University Press's Project X Alien Adventures Reading Scheme supports children with their development of reading. *Alien Adventures* is an award-winning reading series for children 4 to 11 years old. The series follows the action-packed, gadget-filled adventures of Max, Cat, Ant, and Tiger as they journey through space. The phonically decodable eBooks are perfect for motivating children – even the most reluctant readers – to read by themselves.

Reading Gems is a whole school reading strategy that aims to teach children to take pleasure in reading by themselves, listening to someone else read, and sharing texts with adults and other children. Different and specific key skills are taught explicitly to the children through discussions about texts, teacher modelling and opportunities to answer questions independently or with support where needed. Each new reading skill is allocated a colour-coded 'gem'. Every week, children focus on a certain reading gem and learn strategies to help them develop that particular skill.