

# Literacy & English

*Knowing other languages and understanding other cultures is a 21st century skill set for students as they prepare to live and work in a global society. Our ability to use language lies at the centre of the development and expression of our emotions, our thinking and our sense of personal identity.*

In Sandwood we create high quality learning experiences for our pupils to develop their **Listening & Talking, Reading and Writing** skills.

**Listening and Talking** is developed through carefully designed activities, which provide opportunities to develop awareness of different types of language and structured discussions which may arise from all aspects of the curriculum.

The ability to **read** fluently and with understanding is one of the most important skills for life. We aim to develop children's comprehension skills, functional reading skills, library/reference skills and a love of reading for pleasure. To help achieve these aims we use a variety of resources. The main reading schemes used are:

P1 – P3 Storyworld

P4 – P7 Literacy World

There are also opportunities for the children to experience rhyme and poetry and to examine non-fiction texts.

Our **Phonics programme** at the early stages follow Glasgow City Council's guidelines on phonics. Children are introduced to letter sounds and names.

In **Writing**, our pupils develop skills in Functional, Personal, Imaginative and Poetry Writing throughout their time in Primary School. Our writing programme for P1 – P7 uses the schemes 'Big Writing, 'Models for Writing,' and 'Scholastic Writing.' This will ensure a breadth and progression of skills as the children move through the school. Other written work will arise from the reading programmes and topics etc.

In **Spelling**, from the earliest stages pupils are specifically taught the letter names and sounds. By the end of P3 we would expect most pupils to be able to read, write and spell properly the first 300 most common words in the English language.

In P3-P7 pupils follow a spelling programme focusing on spelling rules, patterns and common words.

Our expectation is by P7 almost all pupils can read and spell the first 1000 common words. P7 pupils will further develop their spelling skills through a personalised individual programme.

We follow the Nelson **Handwriting** Scheme and try to ensure that children are fluent and legible writers before they leave our school.

As part of our pupil Equity Funding, this year we have an additional member of staff providing support for targeted pupils in literacy.

## **MODERN LANGUAGES IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

In Sandwood Primary we have teachers who are qualified to teach French as a foreign language. Pupils in P1-7 experience conversational French throughout the course of each day. In addition, P5 – P7 pupils are taught French using Glasgow City Council's Modern Languages in Primary School programmes ensuring development in the areas of talking, listening, reading and writing.

We follow Education Scotland guidelines on 1+2 languages aimed at ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn a modern language from P1 until the end of the broad general education. We recognise and celebrate other languages spoken at Sandwood through focus days and events.