

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

# FOCUS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

- ◉ Every pupil in TNPS should come to enjoy learning English at the end of the six years in TNPS.
- ◉ They will be engaged in enriching learning activities which will help to build and strengthen their competencies in the main languages thrusts, i.e. speaking, listening, reading and writing.

# PROGRAMMES FOR P1 PUPILS

- ◉ STELLAR
- ◉ Integrated reading programme
- ◉ Moo-O Studio

# GETTING A HEADSTART BY...

- ◉ Inculcating good reading habits
- ◉ Stressing the importance of phonics
- ◉ Developing comprehension skills



# CULTIVATING GOOD READING HABITS

# THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

- ◉ Reading is an important skill necessary for survival in today's society.
- ◉ The ability to learn about new subjects and acquire new information depends largely on a person's ability to read.

# THE BENEFITS OF READING

- ◉ Reading opens up doors to a wealth of information from a variety of sources such as books and even the internet.
- ◉ Reading can enhance children's social skills especially when reading to others or reading in a group.
- ◉ Reading exposes children to new vocabulary.
- ◉ Children hear the correct pronunciation of a word when they are read to as they see the words on the page even if they cannot read the words on their own yet.
- ◉ It stimulates the imagination of children as they think and talk about what they have read.

# GETTING CHILDREN TO LOVE READING

- ◉ The more children read, the better they become at reading.
- ◉ Provide abundant reading material from a variety of sources for your children and make them easily available to your child.
- ◉ Make time to read to your child. Read with passion and expression to them.
- ◉ Model good reading habits by reading up books, newspapers and magazines when you can.



# PRACTISING PHONICS



# THE IMPORTANCE OF PHONICS

- Phonics show children how to break down words into sounds which create a bridge to help children understand the written word.
- Since it is almost impossible to teach a child all the words that exist in the world, a child who can break down words has a great advantage when reading as it allows the child to figure out an unknown word in future readings.

# INCORPORATING PHONICS INTO DAILY LIFE

- Practise identifying the number of syllables in a word. (Syllables often consist of a vowel and accompanying consonants.)

Number of Syllables	Examples
Words with 2 syllables	Wa-ter, ham-ster, piz-za
Words with 3 or more syllables	E-le-phant, te-le-vi-sion

- Practise the sounds of the consonant letters and consonant blends with your child.

	Examples
Consonants	All alphabets other than the vowels (a,e,i,o,u)
Consonant blends	cr, fr, pr, st, sh, wh

# INCORPORATING PHONICS INTO DAILY LIFE

- Practise the sounds of the vowels
- Differentiate between long vowel sounds and short vowel sounds

	Examples
Short vowels	fit, tin, bin
Long vowels	feet, teen, bean

- Play rhyming games

## Examples

cat - hat, see - bee, flea - tea, swim - brim



# LISTENING AND READING COMPREHENSION

# THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPREHENSION SKILLS

- ◉ How we react to a situation depends on how we understand it and make sense of it.
- ◉ Listening comprehension is the ability to recall and understand information that is presented orally. It is important in the understanding of day to day communication.
- ◉ Reading comprehension is more than just reading. It requires understanding the message that is being conveyed, the meaning of the text.

# COMPREHENSION IN DAILY LIFE

- ◉ Ask children questions about the story when reading to them. For example, listing the sequence of events.
- ◉ Ask children about events in the story and how these events make them feel.
- ◉ Discuss the books your child is reading with him or her.
- ◉ Get children to act out scenes from a story they have read.



# GENERAL TIPS

# GOOD SOURCES OF READING MATERIAL

- Visit the school library or the neighbourhood library for a wide variety of fiction, non-fiction, magazines and newspapers.
- Visit child-friendly online web resources

Websites	
British Council for Kids	<a href="http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/home?quicktabs_kids_front_promo=3#quicktabs-kids_front_promo">http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/home?quicktabs_kids_front_promo=3#quicktabs-kids_front_promo</a>
Interactive English Games & Activities	<a href="http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy.html">http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy.html</a>