

English: The Harris Way



At Harris Primary School, our aim is for every child to be a confident reader, writer and speaker.

We want pupils to enjoy reading, express themselves clearly and develop a lifelong love of language.

What can you expect?

Reading

Reading

- Early reading is taught through *Red Rose Letters and Sounds*. Children learn phonics daily in small groups with clear progression.
- Phonics books are carefully matched to sounds taught, alongside a library book to share at home.
- As children move on, they take part in daily whole-class reading and daily guided reading sessions, using high-quality texts to develop fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
- Reading for pleasure is central: every class has story time, events like World Book Day are celebrated and parents are encouraged to support at home.

Assessment and Feedback

- Teachers check pupils' understanding daily through questioning, marking and feedback.
- Teachers moderate independent writing termly, and pupils take part in statutory assessments at the end of KS1 and KS2.
- Teachers track progress using SONAR to identify gaps and provide targeted support quickly.

Writing

- Pupils are taught writing through the Lancashire teaching sequence: exploring texts, gathering ideas, modelling, drafting, editing and publishing with pride.
- Pupils write across fiction, non-fiction and poetry, developing vocabulary, grammar and punctuation within meaningful contexts.
- Pupils complete extended writing opportunities that build stamina and independence.

Handwriting

- Pupils are taught handwriting discretely and consistently using *Letter-join* and Red Rose formation phrases.
- Pupils in Reception and Year 1 focus on daily correct formation; by Year 2 most pupils are joining their writing.
- Pupils in KS2 refine fluency and develop a personal but legible style.

Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation

- Pupils are taught spelling, grammar and punctuation systematically from phonics to structured KS2 programmes.
- Pupils learn rules, patterns and strategies, applying them in their writing.
- Parents receive guidance and spelling lists to support learning at home.

We love to talk about our English journey – please come and ask if you have any questions!