

ENGLISH

At Cambridge Primary School, we pride ourselves on our excellent achievements in literacy and our passion for learning. We, as teachers, work together in Professional Learning Communities to develop our knowledge and skills as leaders of literacy learning. We work in teams to plan our literacy program and then work together to assess the achievements of our students. This constant focus on the learning that is happening in our school allows us to refine our lessons and differentiate the curriculum to meet the needs of every student. Importance is placed on all staff working together to keep abreast of best practice and current research in the teaching of literacy.

Reading

Each of our classrooms have a well-resourced library that includes fiction and non-fiction books, levelled reading texts, poetry, magazines and other reading material that pertains to individual grades or year levels. Throughout the year and across the school, critical reading comprehension strategies are taught:

- Searching for and using information
- Monitoring and self-correcting
- Solving words
- Maintaining fluency
- Adjusting
- Summarising
- Predicting
- Making connections
- Synthesizing
- Inferring
- Analysing
- Critiquing

Our emphasis is on ensuring our students are long life learners by encouraging them to engage critically with the text and read for meaning and understanding. Phonics and spelling skills are explicitly taught alongside these strategies.

Writing

Students will be provided with a range of authentic writing experiences that engages them in the writing process of planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing. Teachers will use mentor texts that serve as an example of good writing for students. Techniques and approaches used by writers will be identified and discussions about why those approaches were effective will be had. Students will be taught a range of vocabulary and language features specific to text types and be encouraged to use these in their writing.