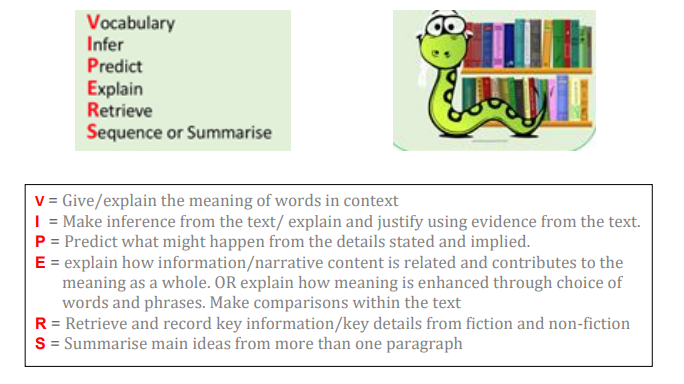
**Reading at Westende – A Guide for Parents**

Reading at Westende Junior School is taught using a range of approaches that provide an array of opportunities to develop a love of reading that we hope will stay with our pupils for life. Reading empowers children to succeed in other curriculum areas as this positively impacts their ability to speak articulately and write at a high level. Our pupils are encouraged to read widely and often, for both pleasure and information; through exposure to high-quality literature, pupils have the opportunity to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Through a whole-class reading approach children are immersed in high-quality literature, discussions and reasoning to develop fluency, comprehension and vocabulary; our children leave primary school as fluent, life-long readers with good understanding.

In school, we are helping our children to explore literature in an active manner through questioning and activities based around 6 key skills. These skills have been given the acronym ‘VIPERS’ to help children realise which skill they might be practising at any time and help them tune into the sort of thinking that is needed. The letters stand for the following key reading techniques:

** V**ocabulary

**I**nfer

**P**redict

**E**xplain

**R**etrieve

**S**equence or summarise

**V** = Give/explain the meaning of words in context

**I** = Make inferences from the text/explain and justify evidence from the text

**P** = Predict what might happen from the details stated or implied

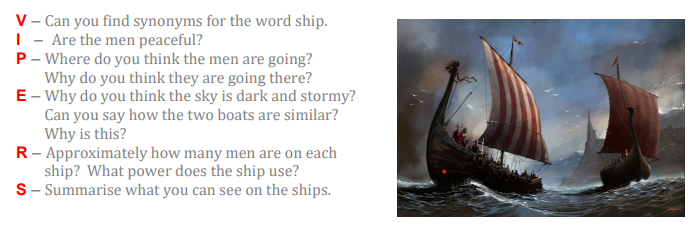
**E** = Explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole. OR explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases. Make comparisons within the text

**R** = Retrieve and record key information/key details from fiction and non-fiction

**S** = Summarise/sequence main ideas from more than one paragraph

We help children to develop these reading skills through questioning and activities in reading of ANY text type.

Here’s an example that could be asked when ‘reading a picture’ in a picture book:

**V** – Can you find synonyms for the word ship?

**I** – Are the men peaceful?

**P** – Where do you think the men are going?

**E** – Why do you think the sky is dark and stormy?

**R** – Approximately how many people are on each ship? What power does the ship use?

**S** – Summarise what you can see on the ships.

We would ask the children to explain HOW they know the answer they have responded with. Below are some possible questions to ask after reading with a child:

