Developing children’s language and understanding through stories

Reading stories is an essential experience for young children, helping them to develop a wide range of important skills.

* Improves listening skills
* Promotes conversation
* Builds vocabulary
* Develops memory
* Imagination
* Prediction
* Awareness of story structure
* Helps children make sense of the world around them

What will my child be learning while sharing and talking about a story?

(Objectives taken from our Early Years curriculum)

* Repeat words or phrases from familiar stories.
* Join in with repeated refrains and anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.
* Listen to stories with increasing attention and recall.
* Describe main story settings, events and principal characters.
* Use talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next.
* Begin to be aware of the way stories are structured.
* Use vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experience of books.
* Use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences
* Listen with enjoyment and respond to stories, songs and other music, rhymes and poems and make up their own stories, songs, rhymes and poems.
* Show an understanding of the elements of stories, such as main character, sequence of events, and openings, and how information can be found in non-fiction texts to answer questions about where, who, why and how.
* Retell narratives in the correct sequence, drawing on the language patterns of stories.
* Listen with enjoyment to stories, songs, rhymes and poems, sustain attentive listening and respond with relevant comments, questions and actions.

Please read with your child today!