Teaching primary – video transcript

Speaker 1: One of the most amazing things about primary school teaching is how fundamental everything is that you’re teaching them.

Speaker 2: We teach all subjects, from your English, your maths, through to your art and your PE. But I think a lot of it is teaching it in a fun way.

Speaker 1: I had a child who was reading a book and she got to the word ‘boot’. And she said ‘bot’ instead. So I made a simple hand gesture which was ‘it’s two letters, it’s “o” “o”, so it’s not “o” it’s “oo”, it’s a longer sound.’ She nodded and said ‘boot’ and then carried on. And then, on the next page she came to the word ‘cool’ in which she imitated my hand gesture. It’s one of those moments when you realise that you’ve actually just impacted a child in one of the most fundamental ways. It is a phenomenal feeling to come across this idea that you have actually taught a child to read, or taught a child to count or add. It is phenomenal.

Speaker 2: Yesterday I took rounding outside. Didn’t think it was possible, but, all the children managed and we had a big game outside on the yard on how to round numbers.

Speaker 1: I honestly don’t know if there is a job where I could go and spend more time with some of the happiest people in the world – they’re just, they always have smiles on their faces, no matter what’s going on. It’s absolutely splendid. I love it.