



Thursday, 19 May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you aware, your child will be completing a phonics screening test on Monday 6th June and Tuesday 7th June 2022. We have been working really hard all year and we would like to wish them the very best of luck!

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the week commencing Monday 6th June. The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard. If the children do not pass, then they are given the opportunity to retake the test in June 2023.

What Happens During the Screening?

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one-to-one with an adult and read each word aloud to a teacher. The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words). The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Complete practise tests
- Read as much as possible to and with your child
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a ‘good guess’
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /c/ in cat, /p/ in pat, /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been.
- Listen to youtube phonics videos and play on phonics play games

(www.phonicsplay.com)

If you would like any further information or to discuss your child’s progress in phonics, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards

Mrs C Hodgson
Phonics Champion

Sarah Lathlane - Executive Headteacher
Neil Harris – Head of School

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