

Dear Parents/Carers

9 March 2018

We are writing to you about the National Phonics Screening test which takes place next term. We hope the questions below will help explain the process and help you with ideas to support your child at home.

What is the Phonics Screening Test?

The National Phonics Screening test is a short statutory assessment to confirm whether individual pupils have learned phonic decoding to the appropriate standard. It was introduced in 2012.

What will my child do?

Your child is asked to read 40 words, one to one with Miss. Pearson. There are 20 real words and 20 pseudo (made up) words. Your child needs to use their phonic knowledge to sound out the word and then blend the sounds together to read the word. It covers sounds (phonemes) that your child has learned in Reception and Year 1. Your child does phonics every day. They are largely unaware of the screening and enjoy spending this one to one time with the teacher.

How can I support my child?

Please practise reading the words we are sending home attached to the spellings homework. The list is in the same format as the screening, with aliens beside the pseudo words. If you are unsure about any of the words we send home, please ask. Encourage your child to sound out unfamiliar words in their reading books, reminding them to blend the word back together.

What will happen after the check?

We will write to you to tell you about your child's progress in phonics and how he or she has done in the screening check. If your child has found the screening difficult, we will tell you what support we have put in place to help improve your child's phonics. Your child would then retake the test in the summer term of Year 2.

Miss. Pearson would be more than happy to provide a phonic workshop for parents if you would like more information on how to support your child's phonic development at home and how best to help prepare them for the phonics screen. If you feel you would like to attend a workshop please complete and return the slip below by 15 March. The proposed dates are:

- Tuesday 20th March at 2.30pm
- Friday 23rd March at 9.00am

If there is enough interest Miss Pearson will organise a workshop and parents will be informed of the date. If there is enough interest for two workshops, both dates will be arranged.

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Year 1 Phonic Workshop for Parents

I would be interested in (please tick one) attending a workshop on either:

Tuesday 20th March at 2.30pm _____ or on Friday 23rd March at 9.00am _____

Name of child _____ Class _____