

Dear Parents/Carers

February 2019

We are writing to you about the National Phonics Screen which takes place next term (June). 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 Screen?

The National Phonics Screen 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 already takes part phonics sessions every day. For the Phonics Screen, your child is asked to read 40 words on a one to one basis 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. 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 (made up) 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 Phonics Screen?

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. This letter will be a part of the End of Year Report which you receive in July.

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 and reading at home and how best to help prepare them for the phonics screen. If this is something you are interested in please return the slip below by 8th March . If there is enough interest, we will look at potential dates and times. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss. Pearson and Miss. White

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Year 1 Phonics Workshop – Expression of Interest. Please return this slip by Friday 8th March

CHILD’S NAME:..... CLASS:.....

I would be interested in attending a phonics workshop regarding the Year 1 Phonics Screen. My preferred time would be:
9.00am-9.30am 5.00pm-5.30pm

I understand that this is subject to the number of replies as to whether a meeting will be scheduled.

NAME:..... SIGNED:.....