

24th February 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Phonics Screening Tests

The statutory Year 1 Phonic Screening Check will take place during the week commencing 17th June. The purpose of the check is to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. Pupils who have not reached this standard at the end of Year 1, will receive support from school to ensure they can improve their phonic decoding skills. Pupils will then have the opportunity to retake the screening check at the end of Year 2.

The check will take the form of a ten page booklet with four words on each page. It will contain 40 words, which pupils read one-to-one with a teacher they know. Half the words will be real words and the other half will be non-words (pseudo/alien words). Each pseudo word will be accompanied by a picture of an alien. This is used to provide the children with a context for the word they are being asked to decode (naming the imaginary/alien creature). All letters will be lower case. Pupils who can read non-words should have the skills to decode any unfamiliar word. Non-words are included to make sure the check assesses phonic decoding as intended.

You will be informed of whether or not your child has met the required standard when you receive your child's report in July. If your child does not meet the required standard, appropriate support will be put in place and will continue into Year 2 when they will have the chance to re-take the test. We can also give you information about how you might be able to help your child at home.

Please visit the website below, which gives you some more information about the screening process.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/assessment/keystage1/a00200415/phonics>

Other helpful links: Correct Articulation of Phonemes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s

Phonics Games and activities:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex.htm> and <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Tracanna (Literacy/Phonics Lead) & Miss Dyson (Key Stage 1 Phase Leader)



Inspiration & Success



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