

Early Years Phonics Pupil Voice



"My favourite part is when you join the letters and sounds together to make a word. When we know all the words, we can make a sentence!"



Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) Phonics Programme

As you know, we have recently adopted the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) phonics programme and we thought it would be a worthwhile exercise to see how the children are settling in to the programme and how they've found it so far.

We asked the children across Reception and Year 1 a broad range of questions (listed below). We've had some really positive feedback from the children which we'd love to share.

Sample questions:

- What do you think about the powerpoints for phonics taught on the whiteboard?
- Do you like the flashcards?
- Do the pictures and rhymes help you remember the sounds?
- Do the mnemonics help you remember the letter formation?
- Do you enjoy completing the phonics booklets?
- What do you enjoy most about phonics?
- Do you enjoy the reading books you take home?
- Do you use your sound mat and poster at home?

Pupil Voice



Reception

"I like the new letter sounds. I like the digraphs. I like learning 'm' as it's the first part of my name."

"I love my reading books - Melly's Monster is my favourite."

"We have a picture mat at home so we can use it to remember the sounds, like for when we're writing a birthday card for our friends."

"I have a sound mat at home with digraphs and trigraphs and one with letters on their own. Sometimes I can't spell names so then I use it. Like when it was dad's birthday I used it to spell his name."

"I love doing my letters. The big screen helps us learn sounds. There's a dot that draws the letters on the screen and it helps us write our letters."

"Yes I like the flash cards. They show us letters and sounds. The teachers holds it up and I say the sound."

"I like my phonics lessons. I like the white board because we play the tricky words song (there's two!). They sing all about the words and it helps us with sounds and letters."

"I like the flash cards. We use them every day, they teach us sounds. They have pictures to help us say the sounds."



Year 1

"The teacher puts sounds up on the screen. First, the teacher reads the words and then the children copy. I love the robot sounds. It's really fun to sound out this way."

"The teachers holds the pile of flash cards and we copy the sounds. When we learn a new sound, Mrs Craven puts it in the pack and when we see it again we say 'there you are' for the sounds we've learnt. We also have pictures and rhyming sentences at the back, with the sounds in the words."

"The thing I like most about the work books is filling out the words because it gives me more information to learn more. When I turned 6, it felt like I went a little bit bigger because I know more."

"We do 'or' 'er' 'ee' 'ai' 'oo'. 'The cows were eating hay.' So 'ay' for 'hay' and 'ea' for 'eat'. They have pictures too. And rhymes like 'true the skies blue' and 'play all day' for 'ay'. 'Walk on the wall' for 'al'."

"I enjoy learning new sounds because you can figure out what to do, and more information helps us to make more sentences and more words."

"I like the alien words, they help you to see which words aren't real. We put little antennas up to say it's not a real word. They're nonsense words."

"We can read and have fun with the books we take home and then when we're done we can choose our favourite book. My favourite book is Fill the Flat."

"I have the sound mat in my reading record which helps me."

"The teacher shows sounds on flash cards that we need to read and pictures. We have to sound talk it and blend it and Miss does it first. We do robot talking like 'sipping' (shows robot actions). We see alien words too and show our antennas."