



05 November 2021

Year 2 Phonics Screening Check

Dear Parents/Carers,

Some of you may be aware that in June this year your child would have taken their Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. This is a statutory assessment which assesses whether children can decode i.e. know their sounds and apply them to read real and nonsense words. For example: recognise and say 'ay' and read p-l-ay.

As the children did not take the check in Year 1, they will now take it within the first two weeks of December. The check will be carried out by a familiar adult, in a calm environment, so that children feel comfortable and can do their best. They will be asked to read 20 words in section one and 20 words in section two. The words become harder as the test progresses and they can contain anywhere between 3 to 5 sounds e.g. s-t-r-aw, ch-a-p-t-er, d-u-s-t.

We are doing everything we can to make sure the children are well prepared for this check, including: daily phonics in groups; a short whole class phonics session in an afternoon and 1-1 or small group catch ups for specific children. The teachers constantly assess the children to identify gaps in their knowledge and plan to support them.

It is vital that your child is practising and rehearsing the letter sounds and applying them to reading words as much as possible. The class teachers will be sending out practise materials, video links and resources for you to use with your child via Seesaw. They may also contact you directly to offer further guidance and support materials if your child needs some extra practise at home. A useful website to support your child is www.phonicsplay.co.uk. The games give your child the opportunity to practise reading real and nonsense (alien) words, which is in the same style as the phonics screening check.

Thank you for your continued support, it really does make a difference to your child's learning.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Gay
Phonics Leader