

Friday 24th May 2019

To: Parent/Carers of children in Year 1

The week commencing Monday 10th June 2016 Year 1 will take their phonics screening test.



What is the phonics screening test?

The national phonics screening check was introduced in 2012 to all Year 1 pupils. It is a short, statutory assessment to ensure that children are making sufficient progress in their phonics skills to read words and are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

The assessment will be age-appropriate, with children sitting with a teacher and reading one-to-one. It should be an enjoyable activity for children which will take no more than 10 minutes.

How is the test structured?

The check consists of a list of 40 words, half real words and half nonsense words, the nonsense words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. Nonsense words are an established assessment method of many schools, and are included in many phonics programmes. They are included because they will be new to all pupils, so there won't be a bias to those with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words. This is a test of a child's ability to decode using phonics. Children who can read non-words should have the skills to decode almost any unfamiliar word.

How will the results from the phonics screening check be used?

We have to inform parents towards the end of the summer term in Year 1 of their child's results. If your child does not reach the required level, we will tell you what provisions we are going to be making at the end of Year 1 and the beginning of Year 2. Your child will then re-take the assessment in Year 1.

How can you help?

To help children prepare for this please listen to your child read regularly and help them with any sounds they are unfamiliar with.

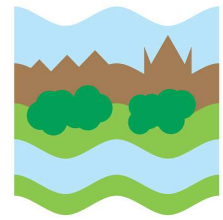
Below are the sounds that children need to know. Additionally children need to know that some letters make alternative pronunciations.

s	t	p	n	m	a	e	i	o	ay	ou	ie	ea	oy	ir	ue	aw	wh	a	e	i	o	u	ow										
g	d	ck	r	h	u	ai	ee	igh	ph	ew	oe	au	ey	a_e	e_e	y	ou	er	ea	ie													
b	f	l	j	v	oa	oo	oo	ar	i_e	o_e	u_e	ch	c	g	ey																		
w	x	y	z	qu	or	ur	ow	oi																									
ch	sh	th	th	ng	ear	air	ure	er																									



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Below are some useful websites to help the children to practice their sounds. They also help with reading different words.

www.letters-and-sounds.com

www.phonicsplay.co.uk (no log in required)

www.educationcity.com the log in details are:

username: firstname.lastname

password: pupil

Some ideas for games:

- Show different words to check for spelling e.g. money, happy, key. Use true and false for responses.
- Write sentences on paper, cut the sentence up, put the sentence back to make sense. Can some words be changed?
- Show pictures and match the correct word to the picture
- Writing a sentence or a word to match a picture
- Show various words, say a word and child must splat the correct word

What shall I do if my child is struggling to decode?

Say each sound in the word from left to right.

Blend the sounds by pointing to each letter, i.e. /b/ in bat, or letter group, i.e. /igh/ in sigh, as you say the sound, then run your finger under the whole word as you say it.

Talk about the meaning of a word if your child does not understand what they have read.

Further support, resources and website links can be found on our website: www.whistonjunior-infant.co.uk

However, work at your child's pace and have FUN!

Remember! We are here to help your child to do their very best and develop a fluency and love of reading.

If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to see Miss Burgin.

Kind Regards

Miss Burgin

Year 1 Teacher



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