

9th October 2020

Dear parents/carers

Phonics screening:

Each year, our Year 1 cohort undertake a statutory reading check during the summer term. Due to the cancellation of the phonics screening check that was due to take place in June 2020, the current cohort of Year 2 children will be required to sit this screening check this academic year. The screening check will take place in December; any children who meet the expected standard will not be required to repeat the check; those who do not meet the expected standard in the Autumn check will retake the screening check again in June 2021.

In school, the teachers are supporting the children by providing daily Read, Write Inc. sessions and creating opportunities for them to read a range of words throughout the day. Each child will be taking home a sound mat and a range of word cards to support them this term.

What is the phonics screening check?

The phonics screening check is a statutory reading check that every Year 1 child in the country completes. The check is used to provide evidence of the children's decoding and blending skills, not to test their vocabulary. During the phonics screening check, the children are asked to read 40 words; 20 of these words are real words and 20 are 'alien' (pseudo) words. Children can sound out each word (using 'Fred talk') and the images on the page tells the children whether the word is a pseudo or real word.

How can you help?

Keep reading with your children. Encourage them to read the green words at the beginning of their RWI book before starting their story

Websites such as [phonicsplay.com](https://www.phonicsplay.com) have some excellent, free games (click phase 3 or 5 on the left-hand side of the screen to access these games).

Your class teacher can answer any questions you may have during the parent consultations coming up.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Pethick and Miss Henderson



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