



Thursday 16th May 2024



Headteacher: Mrs G. Franklin

Dear Parent/Carer,

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the week beginning Monday 10th June 2024. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or if they have not taken the test before.

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

What Happens During the Screening?

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one-to-one with their teacher and read each word aloud. The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The pseudo-words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent of any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

How Are the Results Used?

Results from the check will be used by schools to analyse their own performance and for Ofsted to use in inspections.

Results

You will receive a page in your child's end of year report to let you know whether your child met the standard threshold. Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.

If you would like to hear more about the phonics screening check, myself and Miss Brown (Phonics Leader) will be holding a meeting at 3.30pm on Thursday 23rd May. We will talk about the phonics screening check, show you examples of past tests, and give you some ideas of how you can help your child in the weeks running up to the check. We would love to see you, so please come along.

If you have any questions, please see your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Kind regards,

Mrs Whelan
(Year 1 Leader)

