



East Hoathly CE Primary
School and Nursery
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Friday 10th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers of Squirrels class,

Re: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check 2024

In term 6, the children in Year 1 and some in Year 2 will take part in a phonics screening check, this assesses the children's phonetic knowledge. You might start to hear the children talking about 'alien words'. These are not real words (pseudo words) but they are made up of the sounds they have been taught in Phonics. The children will know they are alien words because they will have a picture of an alien next to the word. These words form part of their phonics screening which will take place in term 6.

Alien words are an efficient way to check if a pupil knows:

- a. the sounds that the letters make
- b. how to blend those sounds into words

The children already read these words as part of their phonics sessions and enjoy playing games with the words.

We will be holding a parent session for parents to find out more about the phonics screening on Thursday 16th May at 2.45pm in the library. Please come in through the main office.

Attached to this letter are some suggestions of activities to support your child/children with their Phonics knowledge. Please utilise the suggested links and games to help them embed these phonic sounds in both real and 'alien words'.

We will tell you about your child's progress in phonics and how he or she has done in the screening check as part of the end of year report. If your child has found the check difficult, we will also tell you what support we have put in place to help him or her improve. All children are individuals and develop at different rates. The screening check ensures that teachers understand which children need extra help with phonic decoding.

Kind regards,

Mrs Briley
Head of School

Mrs Tucker
Year 1 / 2 Teacher



How can I help my child at home?

- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.

Phonics website:

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/list/phonics-games-phase-5>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

<https://ictgames.com/phonicsPop/index.html>

- Read as much as possible to and with your child.

Ask your child to draw 'sound buttons' underneath each sound, to show they can correctly identify each one.

Say all the sounds individually then put the word together.

k-igh = kigh
g - ir - s - t = girst
b -ai ---m = baim

- Encourage and praise - get them to have a 'good guess'.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each letter, e.g. /c/ in cat, or the letter group, e.g. /ng/ in sing. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

s	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h
ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	ck	rr	
c			kn	mb			cc	wr	
se			gn				ch		
ce									
st									
sc									
b	f	l	j	v	w	x	y	z	qu
bb	ff	ll	g	vv	wh			zz	
	ph	al	dge	ve				s	
			ge					se	
								ze	
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
tch	ch					ea	y	a	o-e
ture	ti								ou
	ssi								
	si								
	ci								

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	yoo	oo	ar
ay	ea	ie	o	ue	ue	u*	a*
a	e	i	o-e	u-e	u	oul	al*
a-e	e-e	i-e	ou	ew	u-e		
eigh	y	y	oe	ou	ew		
aigh	ey		ow	ui			
ey							
ea							
or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	zh	
aw	er	ou	oy	ere	are	su	
au	ir			eer	ere	si	
aur	or				ear		
oor							
al							
oar							
ore							

*depending on regional accent