

Phonics Meeting for Parents

Wednesday 5th October

Why teach phonics?

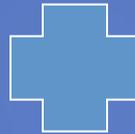
Being able to read is the most important skill children will learn during their early schooling and has far-reaching implications for lifelong confidence and well-being.

('Letters and Sounds' Principles and Practice of High Quality Phonics)

Phonics at a glance

Phonics is...

Skills of
segmentation and
blending



Knowledge of
the alphabetic
code.

Phonics

Phonics helps children to develop good reading and spelling skills e.g. **cat** can be sounded out for reading and spelling.

Phonics is the link between letters and the sounds they make.

Although there are 26 letters in the English alphabet, there are more than 40 speech sounds.

This smallest unit of sound is called a **phoneme**.



The letters that represent the phoneme are called **graphemes**.

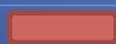


The grapheme could be 1 letter, 2 letters or more!
We often refer to these as sound buttons:

t



ai



igh



- Phonemes are represented by graphemes.
- A grapheme can consist of 1, 2 or more letters.
- A phoneme can be represented in more than one way (**c**at, **k**ennel, **ch**oir) - different spelling choices
- The same grapheme may represent more than one phoneme (**m**e, **m**et)

- DIGRAPHS - 2 letters that make 1 sound.

ll ss zz oa ai

k i s s



- TRIGRAPHS - 3 letters that make 1 sound.

igh dge

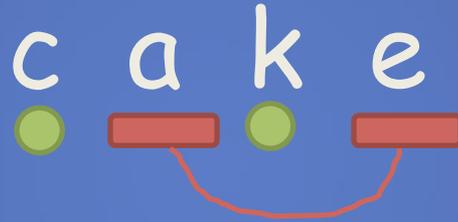
s i g h



SPLIT DIGRAPHS - 2 letters that make 1



sound which are not next to each other



The 44 phonemes

/b/	/d/	/f/	/g/	/h/	/j/	/k/	/l/	/m/	/n/	/ng/
										
/p/	/r/	/s/	/t/	/v/	/w/	/y/	/z/	/th/	/th/	/ch/
										
/sh/	/zh/	/a/	/e/	/i/	/o/	/u/	/ae/	/ee/	/ie/	/oe/
										
/ue/	/oo/	/ar/	/ur/	/au/	/er/	/ow/	/oi/	/air/	/ear/	/ure/
										

How to say the sounds

- Saying the sounds correctly with your child is extremely important
- The way we say sound may well be different from when you were at school
- We say the shortest form of the sounds

How do we teach Phonics?

In school, we have a daily phonic session lasting 20 minutes.

We follow the Letters and Sounds programme and have a multi-sensory approach including the use of jolly phonics.

Lesson format

In each year group, phonic lessons follow the same format throughout the 6 progressive phases:

- **Revise:** The children will revise previous learning.
- **Teach:** New phonemes or high frequency or tricky words will be taught.
- **Practice:** The children will practise the new learning by reading and/or writing the words.
- **Apply:** The children will apply their new learning by reading or writing sentences.

Blending

This involves recognising the letter sounds in a written word.

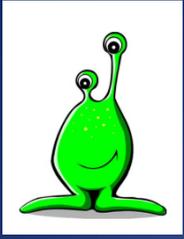
c-u-p



Then merging or 'blending' them in the order in which they are written to pronounce the word 'cup'.

Segmenting

- 'Chopping Up' the word to spell it out
- The opposite of blending
- Identifying the individual sounds in a spoken word (e.g., s-t-or-k) and writing down letters for each sound (phoneme) to form the word **stork**



We use alien words to segment
and blend too.

d r e p



g r i f



Nonsense games like this (using alien words)
help to build up skills - and are fun!

Tricky Words

Children are also taught to read and spell 'tricky words', which are words with spellings that are unusual.

- Words that are not phonically decodeable
e.g. was, the, I
- Some are 'tricky' to start with but will become decodeable once we have learned the harder phonemes
e.g. out, there,

Phonic learning is fun!

- The children learn and practise their phonemes in lots of fun ways:
- Sound talking and rhyming.
 - Playing games - table games or interactive games on the computer.
 - Using phoneme frames, "sound buttons" and whiteboards to spell words.
 - Sorting phonemes.
 - Making words with phonemes.
 - Being phoneme "detectives".
 - Reading and writing sentences. Silly sentences are great fun!
 - Using the internet - phonics play <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>



s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e u r h b f f l l s s



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j v w x y z z z q u c h s h t h n g a i e e i g h o a
o o a r o r u r o w o i e a r a i r u r e e r

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	ck	ff	ll
j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	ss	zz	qu
s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	sh	ch	th	

ch i n s a t



Year 1 Phonics Test

In June all Year One children will be expected to undertake a phonics check. The aim is to check that a child is making progress in phonics. If a child has not reached the expected standard we will ensure that additional support is given to help your child progress in year 2.

grit

start

best

hooks

blan



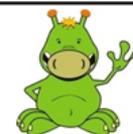
steck



hild



quemp



Things to do at home

- Sing songs and rhymes
- Sing and say the alphabet together
- Play 'I spy'
- Play with magnetic letters, using some two-grapheme (letter) combinations, eg: *r-ai-n = rain* blending for reading
- Praise your child for sounding out words
- Look at tricky words
- Play phonic games

Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader.

• Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to:

• Sound out

• Re-read to check it makes sense.

• Use pictures for clues.

• Ask questions about the book.

And most importantly **ENJOY READING!**