



Barnes Farm Year 1 Phonics Screen Meeting 29th April 2022



What is phonics?



- Children are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds or 'phonemes'. They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word.

- Year group expectations:

Preschool - Phase 1

Reception - Phase 2 and 3

Year 1 - Phase 3, 4 and 5

Year 2 - Phase 5 and 6

What is phonics?



- Children are taught discrete phonics lessons everyday and they are encouraged to use the strategies to read and write in other lessons.
- There are around 40 different sounds.
- Words are made up from small units of sound called **phonemes**. Phonics teaches children to be able to listen carefully and identify the **phonemes** that make up each word. This helps children to learn to read words and to spell words.

What is phonics?



1. GPCs

They are taught GPCs. This stands for **grapheme phoneme correspondences**. This simply means that they are taught all the 44 phonemes in the English language and ways of writing them down. These sounds are taught in a particular order. The first sounds to be taught are **s, a, t, p, i, n**.

2. Blending

Children are taught to be able to blend. This is when children say the sounds that make up a word and are able to merge the sounds together until they can hear what the word is. This skill is vital in learning to read.

3. Segmenting

Children are also taught to segment. This is the opposite of blending. Children are able to say a word and then break it up into the **phonemes** that make it up. This skill is vital in being able to spell words.


Why are the children being screened?

- Every Year 1 child in the country will be taking the phonics screening check in the same week in June - it is a statutory assessment by the government.
- An assessment of the child's ability to decode words using phonics.
- The aim is to pick up any children who are struggling with phonics, so that they can be given extra support.
- All schools must set the test in a specified week in June. This is typically towards the end of Year 1.
- It takes 5-10 minutes.
- Children are asked to read a list of 40 words - some are real words and some are non-words/alien words.

What will the children be expected to do?

- The check is very similar to tasks the children already complete during phonics lessons.

- Children will be asked to 'sound out' a word and blend the sounds together. eg d-o-g - dog

d o g 

- The focus of the check is to see which sounds the children know and therefore the children will be asked to read made up 'nonsense/alien' words.

THIS IS NOT A READING TEST!



Examples of words:

in

at

beg

sum

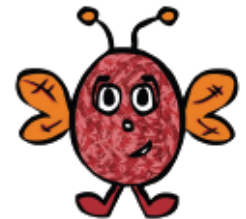
ot



vap



osk



ect



When will the screening take place?

- The screening will take place throughout the week beginning **Monday 6th June**. The children cannot retake the test at any other time so it is very important your child is in school during this week.
- The check has been designed so that children of all abilities will be able to take part.



Who will complete the check?

- The children will complete the check one at a time in a quiet area of the school with a familiar adult.
- Mrs Robinson will complete the checks for all children.
- The screening will only take 5-10 minutes with each child.



How can you help?

Encourage your child to 'sound out' when reading or writing. Focusing particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns.

Digraph- 2 letters making one sound

cow

Trigraphs- 3 letters making one sound

night

Split digraphs- 2 vowels with a consonant inbetween. Use to be known as the magic e!

spine

How can you help?

- With the children we focus on pure sounds not letter names.

e.g: **e** is sounded as '**eh**' not '**eee**'

f is sounded as '**ffff**' not '**eff**'

- It is also important when the children develop sound awareness and use PURE sounds for the sound at the beginning, end or middle of a word that they do not swar i.e. the sound does not contain 'er' or 'uh'

e.g: '**b**' and not '**buh**' or '**g**' and not '**ger**'

How can you help?

- Encourage your child to use a sound mat when writing and use their actions to find the sound they need.
- Your child's reading record has all the different phonemes in the centre pages.
- Please continue to read with your child as usual and encourage them to:
 - Sound out
 - Re-read to check it makes sense.

How can you help?

Children can practise their phonics by playing games or using programmes online.

Examples of websites include:

- PurpleMash
- Phonics Play - <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
- Mr Thorne does Phonics - mrthorne.com/home/phonics/letters-and-sounds/
- Letters and Sounds: www.letters-and-sounds.com

How can you help?

- Quiz
- Bingo
- Phonics family fortunes
- Word search
- Noughts and crosses
- Yes/no questions
- Jumbled sentences
- Corners
- Beginning and endings
- Pairs
- Who am I?
- Swap shop
- Word hunts - classroom/hall/outside

Questions?

