

Dear Parents/Carers,

The infant team have been exploring different ways to communicate information about how to support your child/ren with their phonics and reading. As we are unable to provide our usual workshops, the staff have created these videos to support you and your child/ren at home.

Phonics: Reception

Children in reception should be working through our scheme '**Letters and Sounds**' Their class teacher may refer to this in **Phases**. As part of their nursery provision children would have been learning about **Phase 1**. This is then revisited in Reception and then children will work through each phoneme learning the 'sound' that it makes. Children are taught to read phonetically and use their sounds to read. Miss Farrar has also created a video to help you support your child/ren with '**blending**' and '**segmenting**', terminology used to support children with their reading and writing. Please refer to these to support your child at home with their home learning tasks.

In Reception, children will work through **Phases 1-4** across the whole of the year. This will include single sounds and digraphs and tricky words.

Phoneme- is the smallest unit of sound- *s, a*

Digraphs- a combination of 2 letters making one sound- *nk, ng*

Tricky words- words which cannot be sounded out- *the, me*

Sound buttons- These are used to show how many sounds are in a word. They are often dots or dashes drawn underneath a word to show if it is one letter and one sound for a dot or a digraph, which is represented by a dash.



Phonics: Year 1

In Year 1, children will be consolidating any single sounds or digraphs from Reception and the bulk of the year will be focusing on **Phase 5** of the phonics scheme. This again will look at digraphs, tricky words and trigraphs to support their reading and writing. It will take the children the whole year to develop their skills and consolidate their learning as part of the **Phase 5** curriculum.

In Year 1 children will also take part in a **phonics screening check**. This usually takes place during **June** and each child is asked to read out a range of words using their phonic knowledge. More information about this will be shared by the Year 1 class teachers later in the academic year.

Trigraphs- a combination of 3 letters making one sound- *air, ear*

Teachers will use **sound buttons** to represent each sound in a word. This will help with both reading and writing.



Phonics: Year 2

In Year 2, children will be working through **Phase 6**. Again this will include; digraphs, trigraphs and tricky words. Phase 6 revisits a lot of their previously learning and also explores; homophones, prefixes and suffixes.

Miss. Walker has created a video which shares **Phase 3-5 sounds**.

Homophones- two words that sound the same but have different meanings- *hair, hare*

Prefixes- are letters which we add to the beginning of a word to make a new word with a different meaning – *unhappy, submarine*

Suffixes- are letters which we add to the end of a word to make a new word with a different meaning- *cheerful, slowly*

Along with videos of how to pronounce the sounds, there are also some leaflets about phonics and reading which have been previously shared during parent workshops. Please use these to support you and your child at home with their phonics, reading and writing.

Thank you for your on-going support,

The Infant Team

Mrs. Rigby, Miss. Farrar, Miss. Lozynskyj, Mrs. Hoskin, Miss. Walker