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Dear Parent/Carer

17th May 2024

Re: Phonics Screening Check 2024

On the week beginning June 10th your child will be taking part in the national phonics screening check. This check is a statutory government measure to track how well children are applying the phonic knowledge they have gained throughout Early Years and Year 1.

By this point, your child has learned about all the sounds and spelling rules that will be used in the check and is consolidating their knowledge through phonics revision, reading and writing in school. The children have been doing mock assessments in preparation with good results, however the check has an arbitrary pass mark that children need to achieve otherwise they will need to retake the same test next year. Due to this, we want to ensure children have the best possible chance to achieve the target score and have compiled a phonics pack to work with at home for the next few weeks.

With the pack is a guide on the Little Wandle phonics scheme we use in school, including the technical language we use in phonics of phoneme (the sound being said) and grapheme (which letters are written to make the sound). Your child's class teacher may indicate to you on an individual basis if there are any targeted phonemes/graphemes, but if not, then general revision will be hugely beneficial.

The phonics screening check is an oral test, which requires the children to speak their answers. Therefore while using the materials, please ensure children are saying their sounds clearly and blending the sounds to say the word fluently. We appreciate this home learning task requires full adult support and thank you in advance for the time you'll spend practising with your child.

Yours sincerely
Mr Storey and Mr Clarke

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