



Information for Parents regarding the Year One Phonics Screening Check 2020



Dear parent / carer,

As part of national assessment for Year One your child will be taking part in a 'phonics screening check'. This test is a government set statutory check for all pupils in Year 1. The phonics screening check will be administered during the week commencing

Monday 8 June 2020

The test is designed to test children's **phonic segmenting and blending** skills. The purpose of the screening check is to check whether pupils have learnt phonic decoding to a set standard. Last year the standard was set at a pass mark of 32 out of 40 words.

The screening check is made up of **40 words**, which pupils will read one-to-one with a teacher. Half of the words are **real** and the other half are **non-words**, or 'alien' words. They appear alongside pictures of aliens to distinguish them from real words. Non-words are included in to make check children's phonic skills to decode any unfamiliar word.

This is an example of a 'real' word and 'non-word' as they appear in the test:

<i>example 'real' word</i>	<i>example 'non-real' word</i>
blackbird	gorsprung 

You can **help** your child by asking them to practise their target phonics using the individual packs provided and reading with them **every night**. The **spellings** that are sent home each week support the phonics teaching covered in class. Please take the time to help your child to **read, write and learn** these.

Here is a **list of websites** that are helpful for learning, playing and revising phonics. Most websites also have information for parents to help you to understand phonics:

http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ <i>(Click on 'free' phonics play)</i>	http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/ <i>(BRILLIANT games and resources!)</i>
http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/ <i>(lots of free games to try!)</i>	http://www.ictgames.com/literacy <i>(LOTS games to try!)</i>

Pupils who have not reached the standard at the end of Year 1 will continue to receive extra support in school to ensure they can improve their phonic decoding skills. This will form part of the intervention strategies we already have in place. Pupils will then retake the screening check at the end of Year 2.

If you feel you need to talk to me about anything to do with phonics and the screening test, please make an appointment with myself or your class teacher and I will do my best to help.

Kind regards,

Lucy Sors (Head of Key Stage One)