



# Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

## Aims of this session

We will be covering the following questions:

- What is phonics, how is it delivered at St Margaret's?
- What is the Phonics Screening check?
- What will the children experience?
- How can you support your child?

## What is phonics?

- Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read quickly and skilfully.
- 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.

## Definitions

- Phoneme – The smallest unit of sound in a word.
- Grapheme – What we write to represent a sound/ phoneme – for some phonemes, this could be more than one letter. e.g. ai igh
- Digraph- 2 letters making one size.
- Trigraph- 3 letters making one sound.
- Split digraph- 2 separated letters making one sound
- CVC- consonant, vowel, consonant

# Digraph

- Two letters which make one sound.
- A consonant digraph contains two consonants next to each other, but they make a single sound.
- e.g. sh, ck, th, ll
- A vowel digraph contains at least one vowel but the two letters still make a single sound
- e.g. ai ee ar oy

# Examples of digraphs

**ll ss ff zz**

hill mess puff fizz

**sh ch th**

ship chat thin

**ck ng qu**

chick sing quick

# Trigraph

- Three letters, which make one sound.

s**igh**t      f**ear**      ch**air**

## Split Digraph

- Two letters, which are separated but make one sound (used to be called a magic E).

cake    bone    bike    flute

**Oxford** **OWL**

How to pronounce  
pure sounds



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

## Blending

- Recognising the letter sounds in a written word, for example c- u- p, and blending them in the order which they are written, to read the word 'cup'.
- You can help by using pure sounds- not stretching the sounds e.g. t not t-uh.

This is an essential skill for the phonics screening check!

# What do we use to teach Phonics in school?

- We follow Twinkl Phonics scheme. This is a phased teaching programme which begins in Reception and continues through KS1 and into KS2 when needed.
- We also provide activities in the classroom for children to rehearse and embed the skills they have learnt during the structured session.

## Level One

Level one comprises of seven aspects.

Aspect One: Environmental Sounds

Aspect Two: Instrumental Sounds

Aspect Three: Body Percussion

Aspect Four: Rhythm and Rhyme

Aspect Five: Alliteration

Aspect Six: Voice Sounds

Aspect Seven: Oral Blending and segmenting

## Level Two

By the end of level two children should be able to read some vc and cvc words.

Children will also learn to read the tricky words

'the, to, go, I and no.'

# Level Three

- Children are taught another 25 graphemes, these are mostly digraphs and trigraphs.
- Children continue to blend and segment CVC words for reading and spelling.
- Children will then use this knowledge to blend and segment two syllable words.

chop

sing

dart

shock

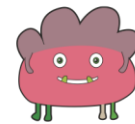
vuss



quop



zook



chack



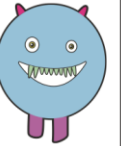
## Level Four

- By level 4 children are able to represent each of 42 phonemes by a grapheme. Children will be able to blend and segment CVC words for reading and spelling.
- Level 4 is consolidation of children's knowledge. Children are encouraged to practice blending for reading and segmenting for spelling of adjacent consonants.

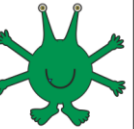
skap



blorn



meft



veems



flat

skill

gift

coins

# Level Five

- Level 5 children teaches the children alternative ways of pronouncing and representing phonemes.

## My ai Sound Family



e	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	(y)oo	or	ur	ow
ea	ay a_e a	ea e_e e y ie	ie i_e i	oe o_e ow o	u_e ew ue u	u_e ue u ew	ore aw au	ir	ou
oi	air	c	ch	f	j	s	sh	w	
oy	are ear	ch	tch	ph	g	c	ch	wh	

## Each Phonics session follows the same four part format

1. Revisit and Review- remember prior learning
2. Teach- new learning
3. Practise- rehearse the new learning, often with single words.
4. Apply- in a sentence or caption

# What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- Called a check but also can be called a test
- Carried out in the Summer Term of Year 1 (inc. Year 2s who need to repeat/ didn't sit in Year 1)
- 40-word challenge, including real words and 'alien' / nonsense /pseudo words
- 32 correct has been the pass mark previously (may alter)
- For competent readers, the alien words can be challenging; they need to practise just sounding out the word presented
- It is carried out over a week

## What will the children experience?

- Carried out in a fun way that is similar to how the children have been practising
- Children are taken out of the classroom, one at a time to a quiet, distraction free space.
- Official test- we report the results
- No pressure on the children
- Help by practising phonics like you always do, with extra practice of alien words to encourage 'speedy' reading- example of reading alien words ( ot, vap, osk, ect) 'What a lot of nonsense!'

# What will the children experience?

chop

sing

dart

shock

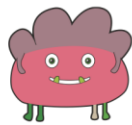
vuss



quop



zook



chack



flat

skill

gift

coins

skap



blorn



meft



veems



delay

modern

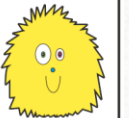
saucers

charming

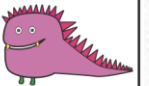
flisp



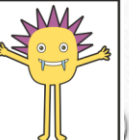
braint



scrid



splote



# What can I do to support my child?

- Help by practising phonics like you always do, with extra practice of alien words to encourage 'speedy' reading- example of reading alien words ( ot, vap, osk, ect) 'What a lot of nonsense!''.
- Ensure that children are reading and articulating each and every sound.



## Read with Phonics

Free with in app purchases



## Phonics Hero

Free with in app purchases



## Reading Eggs

Free with in app purchases

## What can I do to support my child?

Most importantly, lots of praise, lots of celebration.

The Phonics Screening Check is important but it is also only a snap shot of what your children are capable of.