



Phonics Screening Check

Information for parents and carers

This leaflet is to inform you about the National Phonics Screening Check which takes place in June for pupils in Key Stage One.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

It is a short statutory assessment to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. The results of the check will further inform our continual assessment of the children's phonic knowledge. Here at Raeburn we already identify children who need extra help so that they can be given support or intervention in school to improve their reading skills.

Who takes the Screening Check?

All children in Year 1 take part in the Phonics Screening Check. In addition, any child in Year 2 who did not reach the required standard when they took the check in Year 1 will take it again in Year 2. The assessment is age appropriate and the children enjoy the focus time with the teacher.

What does the Screening Check involve?

It comprises of a list of 40 words which the children read one-to-one with a teacher. The check is a combination of both real and made up words which rely on phonics purely to decode. The non-words (alien/nonsense) that have been made up will be shown by a picture of an imaginary creature. Non words are important to include because they are new to all children and do not rely on memory or vocabulary: pupils have to use their decoding skills. Pupils who read non-words should have the skills to decode any unfamiliar word. Children regularly encounter these non-words as part of our phonics programme in school.

What happens after the Screening Check?

The outcome of the check will be shared with parents/carers at the end of the school year. The pupils who have decoding skills below the expected level for the end of Year 1 will continue to be supported in school and re-take the assessment in Year 2. All pupils are individuals and develop at different rates. We structure our reading and phonics sessions in school to cater for different pupil's needs.



How can I help my child at home?

What is Phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read. They are taught how to recognise the sounds that individual and combinations of letters make. They are taught to blend these sounds together to make a word. Children can then use this knowledge to segment and blend new words that they see or hear.

How does phonics teaching progress?

We follow a structured programme in school based on Letters and Sounds. It is a systematic approach with overlapping phases. We teach phonics through reading and writing activities and in discrete phonics sessions. Spelling lists are linked to the phases and our reading scheme includes many phonics based texts. Songbirds, Floppy's phonics and Project X are just some of the books which encourage your child to develop their decoding skills.



Reading

- As always we would encourage you to hear your child read as the first priority. However, when reading encourage your child to use their phonics to decode words they get stuck on.
- Read to your child – especially rhymes and poetry which help children learn the sounds.

Spellings

- A selection are linked to the phonemes/graphemes your child covers in school. Encourage them to sound out their spellings as they write them. Can they find other words with the same sounds?

There are a number of free interactive websites that have phonics games which reinforce learning at school.

Websites

- <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk> - these are separated into the Letter and Sounds phases.
- <http://www.mrthorne.com> – the children love Geraldine the Giraffe!
- http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html
- <http://www.jollylearning.co.uk> – a great website to help with pronunciation.

Apps

- There are lots of great apps for iPads and tablets.
- Twinkl phonics
- Hairy letters
- Spell Cam
- Mr Thorne



What kind of words will there be?

Sample words

This is an example of some of the words your child may encounter in the Check. They include real and made up words containing the different sounds (with alternative spelling patterns).

day

slide

newt

phone

snemp



blurst



spron



stroft



grand

cloaks

scrap

strike

diving

beehive

stip



prool



darps



thand



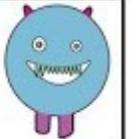
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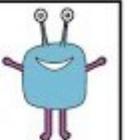
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