

22nd May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Year 1 children will be taking the statutory Phonics screening check week commencing Monday 10th June.

The purpose of the phonics check is to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. The check will take the form of a ten-page booklet with four words on each page. The check will contain 40 words, which pupils read one-to-one with a teacher they know. Half the words will be real words and the other half will be non-words (pseudo/alien words). Each pseudo word will be accompanied by a picture of an alien. This is used to provide the children with a context for the word they are being asked to decode (naming the imaginary/alien creature). All letters will be lower case. Pupils who can read non-words should have the skills to decode any unfamiliar word. Non-words are included to make sure the check assesses phonic decoding as intended.

You will be informed by school of whether or not your child has met the required standard. If your child does not meet the required standard, appropriate support will be put in place and they will re-take the test in the Summer term. We can also give you information about how you might be able to help your child at home.

If you would like to do any practice at home before the check, then please visit the website below where you can find practice materials from previous years.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials>

Should you have any more queries about this, please do not hesitate to speak to me or your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Laura Horsfall

Principal