



Parent phonics meeting

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to:

- recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes;
- identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make - such as 'sh' or 'oo'; and blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word.
- Children can then use this knowledge to 'de-code' new words that they hear or see.
- This is the first important step in learning to read and write.

We teach children phonics by using Jolly Phonics. Children will be introduced to 44 letter sounds (phonemes). In Early years we introduce these sounds, in the following order:

s	a	t	p	i	n
c	k	ck	e	h	r
m	d	g	o	u	l
f	b	ai	j	oa	ie
ee	or	z	w	ng	v
oo	y	x	ch	sh	th
qu	ou	oi	ue	er	ar

How can I help my child at home?

- Read as many stories to your child as you can. Traditional tales, stories from other cultures, poetry, their favourite story - talk about the stories with them.
- Explain the meaning of new words. Most importantly though, show the fun that can be gained by listening to stories.
- Share rhymes and poems at home.
- Use sound talk at home to help children listen and identify sounds in words e.g. "It is time for b-e-d".
- Point out letter sounds in story books and reading books.
- Be a reading/ writing role model. Talk to your child when you are reading something e.g. a recipe, instructions, letter, etc... Talk to your child as you write e.g. a birthday card "who am I sending this to? What sound can you hear at the beginning of their name" or when you write a shopping list.
- Encourage reading and writing everywhere!
- We often send phonics, reading or writing activities home for the children to do to reinforce skills we have been learning in school.
- Share the super sounds and tricky words packs with your child.

Some useful websites/ apps:

- <http://www.mrthorne.com/> Information and activities
- <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> top tips, electronic books, ideas for reading at home
- Read with Biff, Chip & Kipper App
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/3-5-years/letters-and-sounds> games and activities based on phonics and reading
- Alphablocks videos <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>
- <https://www.jollylearning.co.uk/jolly-phonics/>
- <http://www.harriers-aspirations.org/260/ks1-phonics-workshop-videos>