



Church Hill Infant School

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Headteacher: *Mrs M Bulsara*

4th November 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Year 2 Phonics Screening

Your child was due to sit the National Phonics Screening during their final term in Year 1 but due to the lockdown this was cancelled. Schools will now be administering a Phonics Screening check to children in Year 2 at some point before Christmas – schools can decide exactly when this will be. We would like to reassure you that your child will not be put under undue pressure during this time and all children have been seeing practise resources so they are familiar with the format.

Since the return to school this academic year, we have been revising phonics and practising applying it in reading and writing – this check will confirm how your child is doing and how confident they are in reading words.

What happens during the screening?

The test contains 40 words and each child will sit one-to-one with the teacher and read the words aloud. The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace. The list of words will be a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo (nonsense or alien) words.

Pseudo words

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the strange word. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all children; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary or visual memory of words.

Reporting to parents

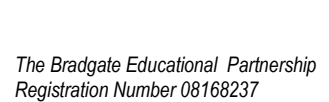
By the end of the summer term all schools should report the result of the Phonics Screening. If your child does not pass the screening during the Autumn Term they will take it again in June 2021 before leaving the Infant School and both results will be reported to you.

How are the results used?

The results of the screening are used to analyse the effectiveness of our phonics teaching and to measure the progress pupils have made. OFSTED will also use the results as part of their inspection.

How can you help at home?

- Read as much as possible to and with your child
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a 'good guess'.



- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read

Resources you can use at home.

- The attached word mat shows you all of the phonemes that the children should know
- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> for games such as 'Buried Treasure', 'Picnic on Pluto' and 'Dragon's Den'
- <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/at-school/primary-school-assessment-tests/year-1-phonics-screening-check>
- Please also check Big Cat Collins as a new book will be assigned each week

We would like to thank you for your continued support with the reading and homework – we really do notice a difference when children are being well supported at home.

Kind regards,

Mrs Elliott Mrs Lissaman Mr Mayhew Mrs Dickens

Year 2 Teachers



The Bradgate Educational Partnership
Registration Number 08168237