

18<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**

In the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June, all children in Year 1 nationally will take part in a phonics screening check. The test takes a few minutes and involves the children individually reading a list of 40 words to their teacher. It should not seem any different to any of the other phonic and reading assessments we carry out during the year. The screening will assess the children's knowledge of phonemes and graphemes (sounds and the way they are written) in words. They will be assessed reading a mixture of real and 'non' words.

It would help the children to practise at home as well as at school to consolidate their learning. Some children recognise the sounds/graphemes individually but not always in words. They also find the 'non' words harder to read. All 'non' words will have a picture of an alien next to them to indicate to the children that this word is a made up word. This is not just about the test, but about embedding a crucial skill, which underpins the children's ability to read increasingly complex texts independently both now and in the future.

To support your child, we have attached some examples overleaf. Encourage your child to sound out and blend every word. You could make up your own words based on those suggested overleaf to give your child more practice in the areas they find tricky. If your child has received a pack of sounds, please focus on these as a priority.

For further information on all the different phonemes and graphemes, please see the Little Wandle parents section of the website

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

*ENelson*

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