



Ashford Park Primary School

'Inspiring a love for lifelong learning'

16th April 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

During the week beginning the 10th June 2024, Year 1 will be completing the statutory Phonics Screening Check. This is a test for children in Year 1 and is completed in a one-to-one setting with a teacher. The teacher administering the test will know your child well and will have completed previous practice phonics checks with your child.

During the Phonics Screening Check, children are asked to read (decode) 40 words. Most of these words are real words, but some are pseudo - words (known as alien words to the children). Pseudo-words are included in the screening check to ensure your child can use their decoding skills and are not just relying on their memory of words they have read before.

There is no time limit for the Phonics Screening Check, however it usually takes less than 10 minutes and it can be completed in small sections if the teacher feels this will help your child. Your child will have completed practice tests before the screening check in June so they will be familiar with the structure of the test. They will also be familiar with reading both real and pseudo-words, as this is included in our daily phonics lessons.

If your child does not meet the expected standard in the Phonics Screening Check, then additional support will be put in place to support them further and to ensure they receive the phonics teaching they need. They will then retake the Phonics Screening Check the following year in Year 2. You will receive your child's Phonics Screening Check results with the End of Year Report in July.

In order to support your child and to prepare them for the upcoming Phonics Screening Check, please refer back to the phonics presentation on the school website which contains important information on our systematic synthetic phonics programme, how we teach phonics and how to best support your child. You will also find links to information/ videos on how the check is completed and past phonic papers. You will find all of these resources under 'Learning', 'Curriculum', 'English', 'Phonics & Early Reading'. <https://www.ashford-park.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Phonics+and+Early+Reading&pid=197>

Before the Easter holidays, your child came home with a phonics sheet. Any highlighted sounds on this sheet are sounds that your child needs to continue to practise, please support your child to learn these. We would also like to remind you to help your child by using the Little Wandle Year 1 Phonics home learning sheets that include all of the sounds being taught each week, with accompanying words and sentences for your child to practise reading.

If you have any questions about the Phonics Screening Check, please speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Cordery.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Cordery, Mrs Hawkins & Mrs Norman

Headteacher: Mr Peter Boulton

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