



Welcome to the Phonics  
Screening Check Meeting for  
Parents  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

# The Science..!

## The Alphabetic Code

- English is an alphabetic language
- There are 26 letters in the English language
- There are approximately 44 sounds (phonemes) in the English language
- Combined they make in excess of 140 letter combinations (graphemes)

# Terminology 1

- **Phoneme** – the smallest unit of sound in a word.
- **Grapheme** – a letter or group of letters that represent a phoneme.
- **Segmenting** – hearing and saying the individual phonemes within words. In order to spell, children need to segment a word into its component phonemes and choose a grapheme to represent each phoneme.
- **Blending** – merging the individual phonemes together to read a word all the way through. Children should sound out each phoneme, not letter when reading unfamiliar words.

## Terminology 2

- Digraphs – two letters representing one phoneme
- Consonant digraphs: ll ss ff zz ng
- Vowel digraphs: ai ee ew oa ar
- Split Vowel digraphs: a-e e-e i-e o-e u-e

## Terminology 3

- Trigraphs: three letters making one phoneme: ear air  
ure tch dge igh

# Identifying Graphemes

cake

play

acorn

grey

night

zoom

- **Phoneme** – the smallest unit of sound in a word.
- **Grapheme** – a letter or group of letters that represent a phoneme.

# Identifying Graphemes

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# The Journey... Simple to complex...

## **SIMPLE...**

**Concept 1:** sounds/phonemes are represented by letters/graphemes

**Concept 2:** a phoneme can be represented by one or more letters

## **COMPLEX...**

**Concept 3:** The same phoneme can be represented in more than one way.

**Concept 4:** The same grapheme may represent more than one phoneme.



**The National Phonics Screening Check was  
introduced in 2012.**

This academic year schools across England will administer the Year One Phonics Screening Check the week beginning **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

This check is statutory for all maintained schools.

All pupils in our current Year One classes at Oasis Academy Ryelands will take the Screening Check.

The Phonics Screening Check is designed to show how well your child can use the phonics skills they have learnt up to the end of Year One, and to identify pupils who need extra phonics help.

The screening check assesses whether your child is able to read/decode at an appropriate standard.

The Department for Education defines the checks as “short, light-touch assessments” that take about four to nine minutes to complete.

## What does the Phonics Screening Check consist of?

The check consists of 40 words that your child will be asked to read one-on-one with their class teacher.

There will be 20 'real' words and 20 'pseudo-words' (non-words which we call alien words).

Non-words (nonsense words, pseudo words) are a collection of letters that will follow phonics rules your child has been taught, but don't mean anything.

Each of the non-words is presented with a picture of a monster/alien.

Your child will need to apply their knowledge of phonemes to read these correctly, showing that they understand the phonics rules behind them.

tox



jound



fape



ulf



thazz



quemp



## **The 40 words and non-words are divided into two sections –**

- simple word structures of three or four letters
- more complex word structures of five or six letters.  
The class teacher will give your child a few practice words to read first.

Section one example:

shin

newt

best



Section two example:

slide

phone

midnight

## **What does the Phonics Screening Check consist of?**

To prepare the children for the check and to assess their phonic knowledge, we carry out termly Mock Phonics Checks with the children.

They are therefore, familiar with the process and the format of the assessment before it takes place in June.

## **Marking the Phonics Screening Check.**

The check will be marked by your child's class teacher. The check will be administered in accordance with the Standards and Testing Agency's check administration guidance.

Schools are monitored by unannounced monitoring visitors from local authorities in order to ensure that administration of the checks are accurate.

All schools will report their pupil-level phonics screening check data to their Local Authority.

The threshold mark is communicated to schools by the start of July, after the test has been taken and all schools have submitted their pupils' scores.

Your child will be scored against a national standard, and their result will indicate whether or not they fall below or within this standard.

## Threshold Mark.

In previous years, the "pass threshold" was 32, which meant that children had to read at least 32 words out of 40 correctly.

At Oasis Academy Ryelands we pride ourselves on our phonics teaching. Results in the Year 1 phonics screening check are above the national average. Last year, 87% of our Year 1 pupils passed the threshold.

# How can I help my child prepare?

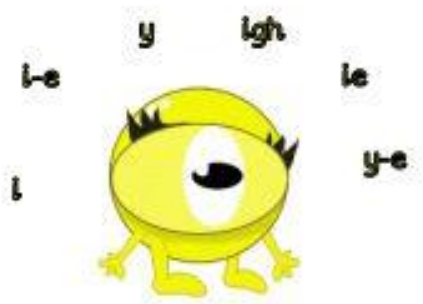
- revising the phonics the children have already learned in Reception and Year One
- weekly Monster Phonics eBooks reading
- use the iPad for phonics games
- find fun games online
- read new books/stories with your child
- Stay calm and be positive! The children do this everyday!



Angry Red A



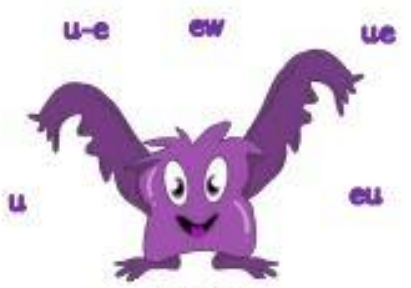
Green Froggy



Yellow I



Miss Oh No



U-Hoo



Cool Blue



Brown Owl



Ghosts



Tricky Witch



ANY

QUESTIONS?