

Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Information

14th January 2025

11th February 2025

Contents

1. What is phonics?
2. How do we teach phonics?
3. What is the Phonics Screening Check?
4. What happens during the check?
5. Pseudo words (nonsense words).
6. Other Information.
7. How can you help at home?

What is phonics?

- Phonics is about teaching children the relationship between letters and sounds. Children begin to learn phonics in Reception and once children begin learning the sounds, they are used orally to identify and make words. They will then begin to learn the letters which make each of the sounds and use these to read and spell.
- At Bishop Chavasse, we use Read Write Inc to teach these sounds and letters.

How do we teach phonics?



Read Write Inc. Spelling – Sounds Chart

Consonant sounds

b	c	ch	d	f	g	h	j	l	m	n	ng
bb	k	tch	dd	ff	gg		g	ll	mm	nn	nk
	ck			ph	gu		ge	le	mb	kn	
	ch				gue		dge			gn	
	que										

p	qu	r	s	sh	t	th	v	w	x	y	z
pp		rr	ss	si	tt		ve	wh			zz
		wr	se	ti							s
			c	ci							se
			ce	ch							
			sc								

Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow	oo
	ea	y	a	o	<u>a-e</u>	<u>e-e</u>	<u>i-e</u>	<u>o-e</u>	<u>u-e</u>
				ou	ai	ea	y	oa	ew
					eigh	e	ie	o	ue
					a	y	i	oe	oe
					ei	ey			ou
					ey	ei			
					aigh	ie			

oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
	a	ore	are	ur	ow	oi		eer	
		oor	ear	er					
		aw		or					
		au							
		a							
		ar							

Sound Blending Group A

Sound Blending Group B

Sound Blending Group C

Photocopied Ditties

Red Ditties

Green

Purple

Pink

Orange

Yellow

Blue

Grey

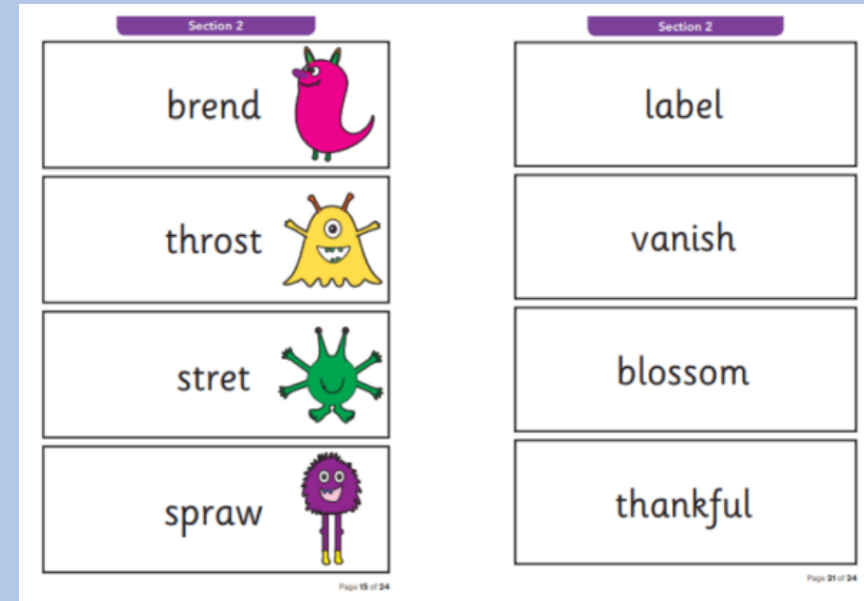
Off the Programme

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- The PSC is a statutory national assessment that checks whether children have learned phonetic decoding to the age appropriate standard.
- As it is statutory, every Year 1 child nationally will take part during the same week.
- Week beginning Monday 9th June 2025.
- Expectation for Year 1 is to be at Yellow Level by the phonics screening check.

What happens during the check?

- The check contains 40 words, that the children are asked to read.
- Each child will sit 1:1 with an adult and read each word aloud to them.
- It should take approximately 10 mins, but the children can take as long as they need.
- Combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words.
- The check is designed to assess whether children are secure enough in their phonics to decode words.



Sample materials are available online to work through with your children. Search 'phonics screening past papers'.

- The check is divided into 2 sections.

Section 1

The words in section 1 will have a variety of simple word structures (for example CVC, VCC, CCVC and CVCC) using single letters (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q(u), r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z), some consonant digraphs (ch, ck, ff, ll, ng, sh, ss, th, zz) and frequent and consistent vowel digraphs (ar, ee, oi, oo, or).

Section 2

The words in section 2 will have a variety of more complex word structures (for example CCVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC and two syllable words) with some additional consonant digraphs (ph, wh), some less frequent and consistent vowel digraphs, including split digraphs (a-e, ai, au, aw, ay, ea, e-e, er, ew, i-e, ie, ir, oa, o-e, ou, ow, oy, ue, u-e, ur) and trigraphs (air, igh).

Other Information

- Results will be reported as part of their summer report with either a reached the standard or not reached the standard.
- We do not and will not know the required standard will be until all the results have been submitted. Since the Check began in 2012, the required standard has been 32 out of 40 words.
- If your child does not reach the required standard, they will re-take the test in Year 2 having had a support programme put in place to support with phonic decoding skills.
- As part of ongoing assessment, your child is practising past papers, so they are already being exposed to the style of test.

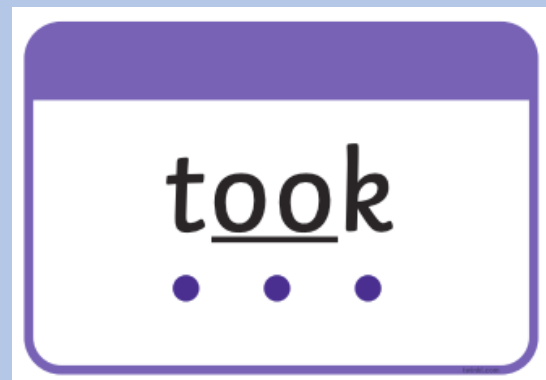
How can you help at home?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUbrJPAt65g>
- Read regularly. Support children with the segmenting and blending of words when they are stuck.
- Use sound mats (attached) to practise the sounds.
- Make flashcards (attached), use magnetic letters on your fridge, use paint/crayons/chalk as means of practising.
- Encourage children to read anything!

How can you help at home?

- Practise reading and writing the tricky words – these will be sent home to you to practise.
- Make up words and ask your child to sound them out.
- Play Buried Treasure and Picnic on Pluto. (PhonicsPlay) – this can be searched through Google or follow the link below.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.
- Using sound buttons at any given opportunity.

Sound buttons



Questions?