



Westlands Primary School

A member of Swale Academies Trust



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VTP/ELB/SLC/Year 1 Phonics

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Dear Parents and carers,

Following on from our 'Phonics Stay & Play' sessions at the end of last term we are now providing you with further information and resources regarding supporting your child's learning in phonics and the phonics screening check in June.

The national phonics screening check is a short, statutory assessment to confirm whether pupils have learnt to decode phonics (sounds) to an appropriate standard. It aims to identify children who need extra help so that they can be given support by the school to improve their reading skills. The check consists of 40 words and non-words, which a child will read one-to-one with a teacher. Half of the words cover phonics skills which are usually covered in Reception and half of the words are based on Year 1 phonics skills.

At Westlands Primary School we already identify children and provide early intervention and support and we will use the outcomes from the statutory assessments to plan any additional support needed as the children transition into Year 2. We continue to support your child in readiness for the check over the course of Year 1. You may find that we provide some additional home reading books to give your child an extra boost - do speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to support your child further. Please be assured that we carry out the check in a calm and relaxed manner so that your child can demonstrate their learning without feeling under any pressure.

The resources we are sending home with your children include:

- A copy of the simple and complex sound chart (used in class to support reading & writing)
- Speed sound Set 1, 2, & 3 Desktop speed Sounds Chart (picture tiles of the sounds)
- Rhymes for letter formation
- Example real and 'alien words' (non-words) to practise sounding out and blending

As always, we are here to help with any questions you may have,

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Clifton
Assistant Headteacher