Chilton Primary School



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Dear Parents and Carers of children in year 1,

During the week beginning 6th June, the children in year 1 will be taking their phonics screen assessment. This assessment will involve the children reading 40 words; 20 of which are real words (crab, scribe, cotton) and 20 of which are 'nonsense' words (jiv, bleam, srobe). The children will be able to read all the words using their knowledge of phonics. The children will sit the assessment in a room and with an adult that is familiar to them. They are very much used to sitting phonic assessments in school, through our Read, Write Inc program, meaning the process should not feel in any way out of the ordinary for them.

If you wish to help at home, you could play some simple games to ensure your child knows the sounds that may come up in the screen and can blend these sounds together in order to read words. On Friday, your child will come home with a sound card containing all the sounds they need to know by the end of year 1. You could cut up these sounds and play simple games, such as snap or matching pairs.

Below are some good websites where you can play games that will support your child's word reading skills:

https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/buried-treasure https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/dragons-den https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/5/picnic-on-pluto

When reading a real or nonsense word, we encourage the children to do 3 things. Firstly, the children look at the word and see if they can spot any 'special friends' (sounds made up of more than one letter e.g. ay, igh, oo, ar). They then say all the sounds from the word in order. Finally, they read the word. Below is a link to a video of a child in year 1 using this technique to read real and nonsense words (the password is Chilton1):

https://vimeo.com/700829656

If you have any further questions regarding the phonic screen, please do not hesitate to ask Mrs Cheshire or your child's class teacher.

Many thanks,

Mrs Cheshire (Deputy Head)



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