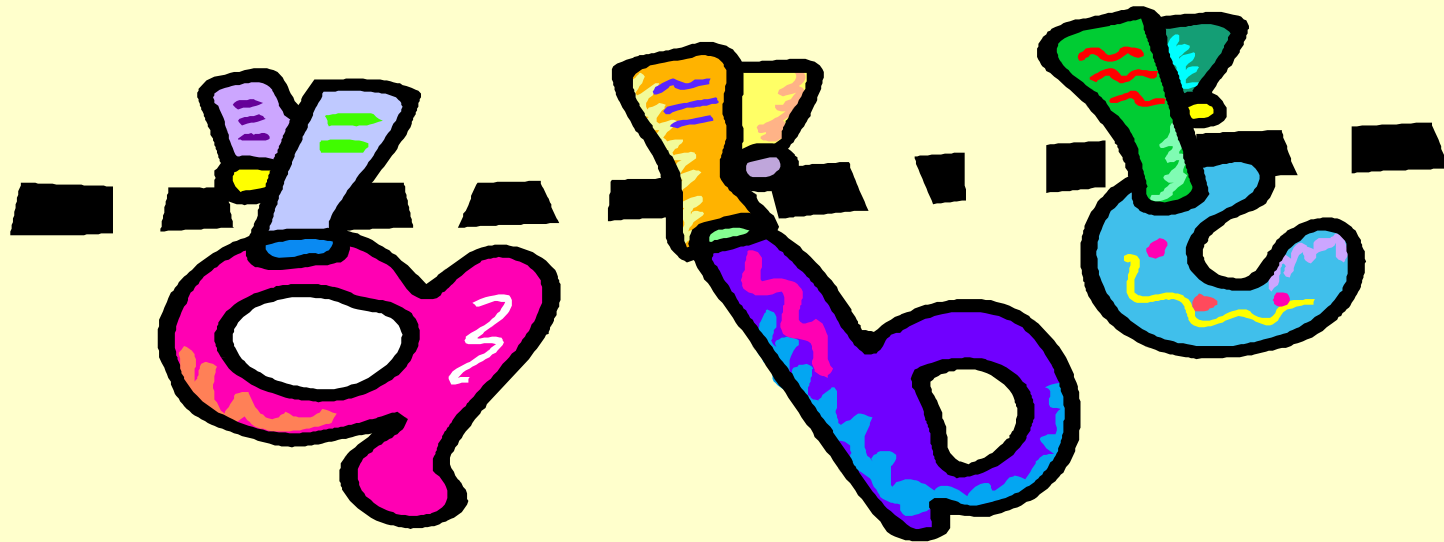


Letters and Sounds



Letters and Sounds

- Letters and sounds is taught as a stand alone subject for 20 minutes everyday.
- It is taught throughout the Foundation stage and to the end of Key stage 1.
- Phonics is crucial to a child's development in becoming a confident reader and writer.

Phases 1 – 6

- During these phases the children are taught the letter sounds, tricky words and high frequency words needed to read and write

Weekly planning

- Each week the children will learn an average of four new phonemes
- A range of high frequency words
- A range of Tricky words

What is
a phoneme
and
a grapheme
???

Definitions:

- **Phoneme** - A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound made by a letter

Definitions

- **Grapheme** - A grapheme is the letter(s) representing a phoneme

For example:

- **t** (a single letter that makes a phoneme/sound)
- **ai** (two letters that make a phoneme/sound)
- **igh** (three letters that make a phoneme/sound)

Enunciation of phonemes

- The ability to orally blend and segment phonemes in words requires correct technical skill in enunciation.
- Phonemes should be articulated clearly and precisely
- We use a phoneme mat as a key for each sound

What is
a *digraph*
and a
trigraph
???

Definitions

- **A Digraph is** - Two letters which make one phoneme/sound when zipped

er

ai

ow

ur

oi

ch

sh

th

oo

oo

ee

ss

ff

ng

or

ar

oa

ll

Definitions

- **A Trigraph** - Three letters which make one phoneme

igh

air

ure

ear

The two words you will
hear all the time are

blending and

segmenting

Two extremely important skills
your child needs to become a
confident reader and writer

Blending for reading

- Merging individual phonemes together to pronounce a word

To **read** unfamiliar words a child must recognise (sound out) each phoneme, **NOT EACH LETTER**, then merge the phonemes together to make a sound

cat rain

bright

Segmentation for spelling

- Hear and say the individual phonemes within words

In order to **spell**, children need to segment a word into its component phonemes/sounds and choose the graphemes to represent each phoneme/sound

WORD	PHONEME				
toast					
foil					
broom					
speed					
crayon					
sale					

WORD	PHONEME					
toast	t	oa	s	t		
foil	f	oi	l			
broom	b	r	oo	m		
speed	s	p	ee	d		
crayon	c	r	ay	o	n	
sale	s	a	l	e		

What is a
high frequency
word
???

- A **high frequency** word is a common word that we use on a daily basis within our reading and writing.

For example: **and** **it**

is **in**

These are words that the children need to learn and remember to be able to apply them in their reading and writing.

What is a
tricky word

???

- A tricky word is a word that we can not decode using our phoneme knowledge

For example:

- I
- we
- they
- was

The children will need to learn and remember these words

How to help at home

Tricky words will be sent home for you to practise with your child. Once they have learnt them we will send home the next set.

We will send home phonic updates so that you know the sounds we are learning the following week. Please practise at home with your child to reinforce their learning.

HAVE FUN!

Handwriting

- A pencil should be held between the thumb and two fingers – Not using a palm grip (whole hand).
- How to help at home to improve handwriting
 - Fine motor control activities such as threading, manipulating small items, Lego construction
 - Gross motor activities such as climbing frames, bikes
 - Reinforce the correct pencil grip and letter formation



Reading at home

Please read with your child as much as possible and ensure their book is in their book bag everyday. Your child's reading book will be changed every Tuesday, unless there is a change to the timetable.



Each child will have a reading record where you can comment on their reading. Please sign when you have heard your child read.