



Sea Mills Primary School

Phonic meeting

Aims of the workshop

- To help with supporting reading.
- To help you understand the progression in phonics teaching and reading throughout the school.
- To introduce our reading scheme.
- To answer any questions related to reading and phonics.

Why do we teach phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read using the full alphabetic code. We use a scheme called unlocking letters and sounds to teach our children the following:

Recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes;

Identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make, such as 'sh' or 'ch';

Apply these skills to reading these sounds together to make a word (Blending).

Reading Foundations

- Talking!
- Rhymes and songs
- Oral blending
- Listening skills
- How books work
- Modelling a love of reading and an interest in print.
- First and last concepts
- Letters and words



At school, the children will be taught phonics following the Unlocking Letters and Sounds scheme of work (progression on our website).

The children will use language such as **phoneme** and **grapheme**. At home we may call these sounds or use the letter name and sound it says. Not the letter names - these are taught through a song we all sing and then when we start spelling, we model saying letter names for CEW.

Unlocking Letters and Sounds is divided into six phases

Children in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 have daily phonics sessions

Nursery – Phase 1

Reception – Phase 1 embedded and then 2, 3, 4

Year 1 – Phase 4 including suffixes and prefixes, Phase 5 (alternative spellings of phonemes) and phonic screening.

Year 2 – Phase 5 revision and Phase 6 (spelling families, plurals)

Phoneme

A phoneme is the sound a letter makes. It is the shortest sound you hear so for example p is p not puh.

- When we are reading **cat** or **pin** we sound out using the phonemes:

c-a-t or **p-i-n**

Grapheme

A grapheme is a 'symbol' of a phoneme.

It is a letter or group of letters representing a sound and we use the letter names for this.

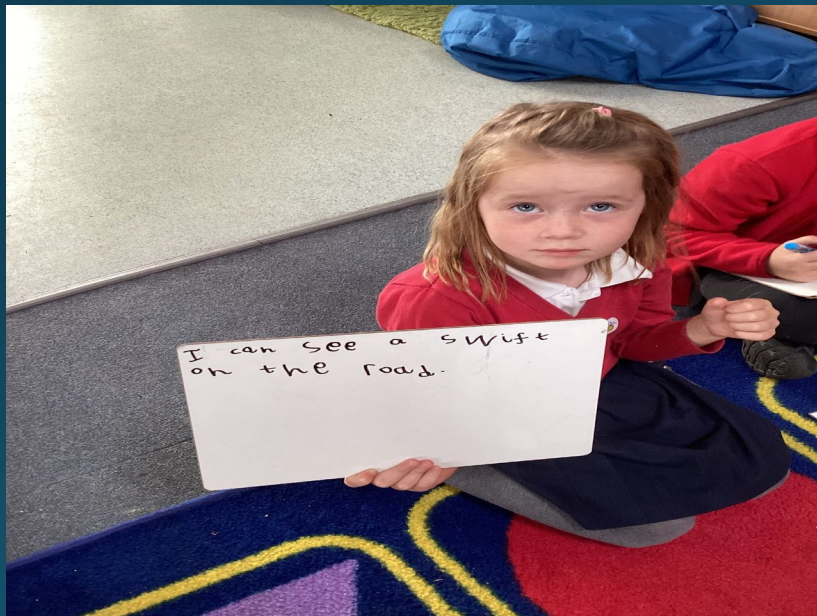
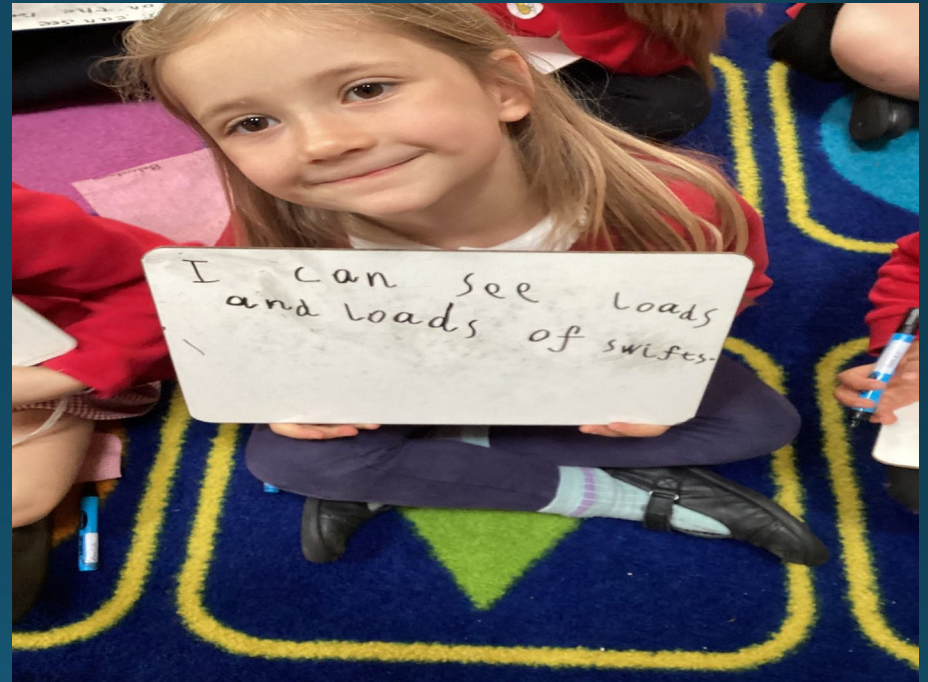
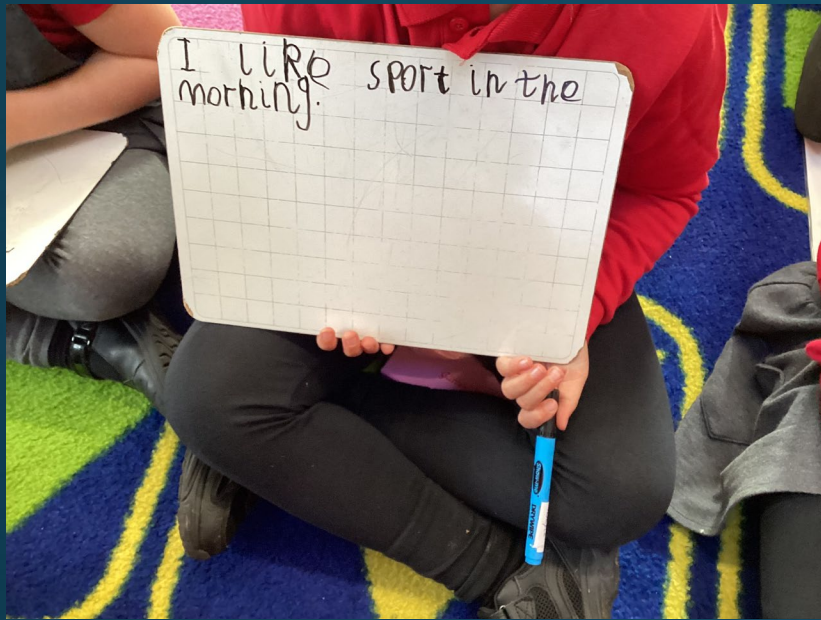
A one letter grapheme is the 'c' in cat.

A two letter grapheme is in leaf where the long 'ee' sound is represented by the grapheme 'ea.'

A four letter grapheme is contained in through where the letters 'ough' make the long 'oo' sound.

A typical phonic lesson

1. Revisit/Review – practise previously learned sounds
2. Teach – Teach a new sound. Teach one or two new tricky words.
3. Practise – Practise blending and reading words with the new sound. Practise segmenting for spelling words with the new sound.
4. Apply – Read or write a caption or sentence using one or more tricky words and words containing the sound.



Year One working on
Phase 4

Shared books

One shared book will also come home weekly and these are for you to read with your child. These will have a higher level of language for you to help your child with comprehension and have more of a structure than the phonic reader books. They are not for the children to read. This will be marked with an s for shared.

Reading books

Alongside their shared book the children will have **a fully phonetically decodable book** .

This will be to practise blending and reading through, discussing language and sharing. Then practise fluency and pace and story telling language. This can be read in parts before children have more speed so that by the end of the week, they are able to read a sentence without having to blend every word. It should be read numerous times and will be at the level the child is at NOT where we are learning as a whole class.

How to pronounce phonemes and where to find support

- Ransom
- You can also find out how to say the phonemes correctly on Youtube. A good site to search is Mr Thorne does phonics.

Ways to help at home

- Pairs(for memory)
- Kims game (see school website, Phase 1 phonics)
- Snap
- Spot the difference (letters are so similar e.g l l)
- I spy using rhyming words to help be ready for oral blending.
- Read or listen to a wide variety of stories
- Help children to spot their key words and learn to read them by sight
- Model reading in the environment-signs, street names, logos, labels

Websites

- <http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>
- Teach my monster how to read is a useful app with games to support children at the level they are at.
- <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/>
- School you tube has so many more videos to support
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBI2wXLyt42ThAvBC4l449A>
- Look at resources for our scheme “Unlocking letters and sounds” <https://www.unlockinglettersandsounds.co.uk>
- You can find unlocking letters and sounds lessons and how to say the phonemes on youtube if you search St Peter’s Primary school, Portishead, Phonics.

Any questions?

For those who would like to try a session as the children do on a daily basis, grab a whiteboard and pen!

