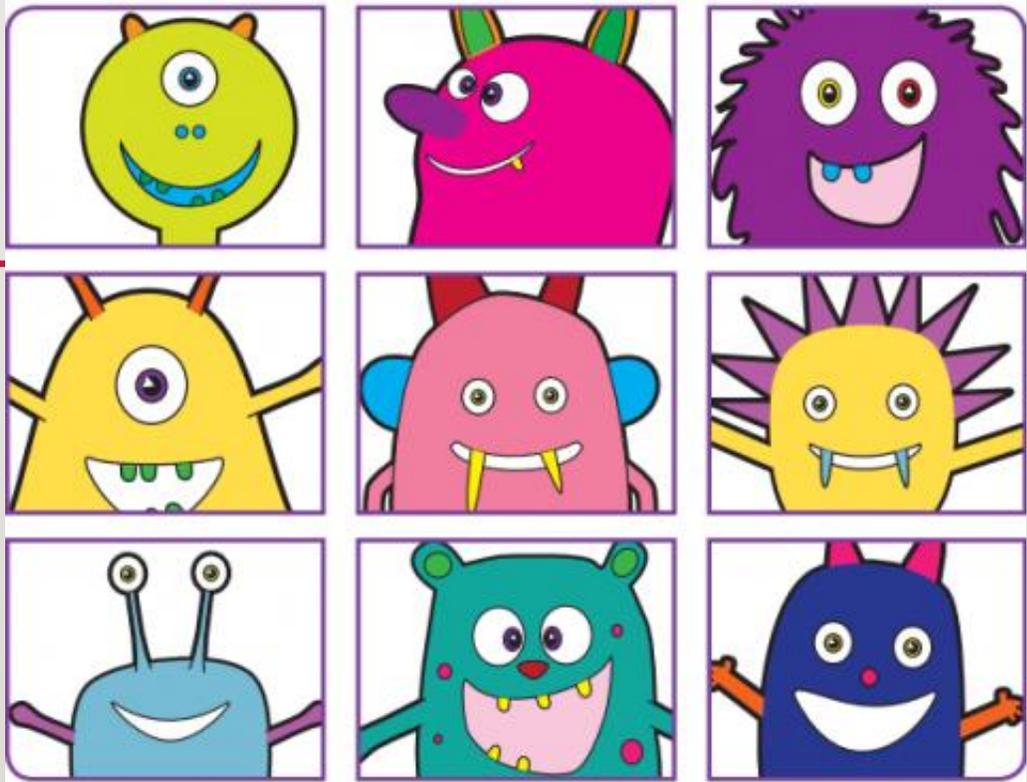


ST ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



YEAR 1 SCREENING CHECK FOR PARENTS

FEBRUARY 2026



WHAT IS THE YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK?

- The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is a statutory annual reading check
- It takes place during the week beginning 8th June
- It aims to check the reading standard of each child and that each child has reached the expected reading level for children in Year 1
- Your child will be expected to segment words by identifying individual letters and relating the correct phoneme (sound) to each letter or combination of letters. They will need to blend these sounds to create the whole word. It uses phonemes from Level 2 – Level 5

WHAT IS THE YEAR 1 PHONICS SCREENING CHECK?

- It helps teachers identify any misunderstandings or gaps in phonics knowledge before your child moves to Year 2
- All children will take part in the reading check, unless they are operating well below the level of the test – if this is the case, then the class teacher will discuss this with you

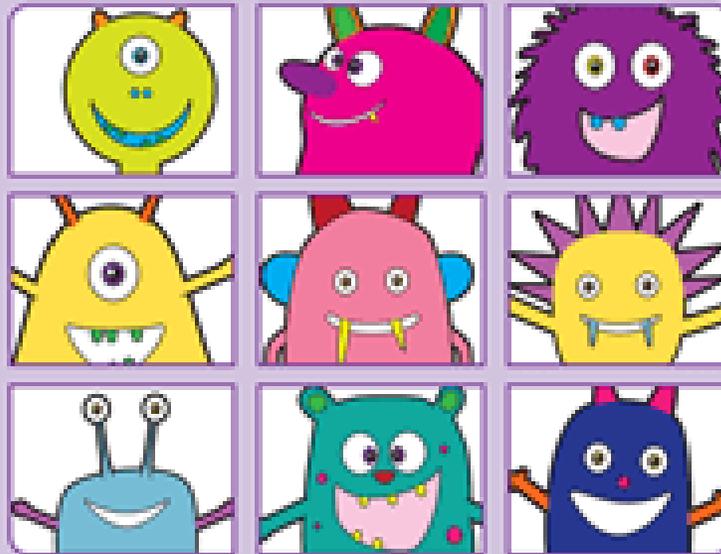
HOW WILL THE CHECK BE ADMINISTERED?

- The check will be administered by Mrs McCabe or a familiar adult
- It will take place in a quiet room and is not designed to be stressful
- The children will be shown a reading booklet and be asked to read the 40 words inside (I like to call it the 40 word challenge!)
- Staff will record the child's responses
- Your child is already familiar with this format as they have already taken part in their first '40 word challenge'

Key stage 1

Phonics screening check

Pupils' materials



WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE SCREENING?

- The booklet contains 40 words – 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (called alien words)
- Pseudo words will have a picture of an alien next to it so children know it is not a real word
- The pseudo words ensure children have an understanding of and can use all graphemes taught
- Children will be asked to read each word out loud one at a time
- The check should take about 10 minutes
- Children can go at their own pace and they can make a few attempts at each word if needed, but staff cannot help

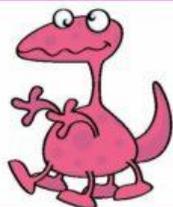
Check 1

Section 1

pab



vas



yon



ilt



Practice sheet: Real words

in

at

beg

sum

Practice sheet: Pseudo words

ot



vap



osk



ect



brend



throst



stret



spraw



label

vanish

blossom

thankful

SAMPLE READING VIDEO

WATCH ABOUT 3 MINUTES FOR IDEAS ON WHAT IS ACCEPTED



2:05 minutes till 4:15

HOW CAN YOU HELP AT HOME?

- Continue reading the real and alien words for homework
- Look on the class website for more information, sample flashcards, sound mats, website links and more information

Phonics in Year 1

Home > Pupils > Class Pages > Year 1 > Phonics in Year 1



**Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Workshop for Parents
(please note this is an information session - not
working with children)**

Year 1 - Phonics screening

In this video, we discuss the year 1 Phonics screening. We explain how the screening would be completed by the class teacher and some tips on what is assessed and what would be asked of the child. Listen carefully and have a practise at some of the sounds with your child.



 [A parent guide to the phonics screening check.pdf](#)

 [Y1 Reading Check for Parents - The School Run.pdf](#)

Real and Alien words - useful phonics preparation for the screening test

 [Alien Words level 3.pdf](#)

 [Real Words level 3.pdf](#)

 [Level 4 Real Words.pdf](#)

LEVEL 2 – LEVEL 5 GRAPHEMES

a a	e e ea	i i	o o	u u oo o	ai ai ay a_e a	ee ee ea e_e e y ie ey	igh igh ie i_e y	oa oa o_e o ow oe	oo oo ue u_e ew
oo oo	ar ar	or or aw au ore al a	ur ur er ir	ow ow ou	oi oi oy	ear ear eer	air air are ear	ure ure	yoo u_e ue u ew
b b	c c k ck ch	ch ch tch	d d	f f ff ph	g g	h h	j j g dge ge	l l ll le el al il	m m mb
n n gn kn	ng ng	p p	qu qu	r r wr	s s ss c	sh sh ch	t t	th th	th th
v v	w w wh	x x	y y	z z zz s	zh s	tion tion	ture ture		

LEVEL 5 ALTERNATIVES

- i - fin, find
- o - hot, cold
- c - cat, cent
- g - got, giant
- ow - cow, blow
- ie - tie, field
- ea - eat, bread
- ew – screw, stew

- y - yes, by, very
- ch - chin, school, chef
- u - but, put, unicorn
- a - hat, what, acorn
- e - we, wet
- ue – statue, glue
- u-e – flute, perfume

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME?

- Hear your child read daily, encourage and praise their reading
- Support them if they are struggling to read a word by encouraging them to sound out each word
- When reading with your child, please ask them to:

1. Use robot rick fingers
2. Spot the digraph
3. Spot the trigraph
4. Spot the split digraphs
5. Spot the Level 5 alternatives



a_e →		
	cake	whale
e_e →		
	delete	theme
i_e →		
	dice	bike
o_e →		
	bone	hole
u_e →		
	tube	flute

Discuss the meaning of any words your child doesn't know and encourage re-reading of texts for fluency

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME?



- Encourage reading when out and about e.g. road signs, shop names, shopping items
- Follow advice and complete phonics reading tasks set by class teachers
- Use the flashcards/sound mats on Y1's Phonics Webpage
- Use Phonics play website: www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- Play phonics games or games that involve sound or listening e.g. I Spy
- Read your child a bedtime story and involve them in the process. Can they see any split digraphs? Talk about and enjoy a variety of books

QUESTIONS? OR CONCERNS?

- Don't worry!
- Speak to Mrs McCabe at the end of the school day if you need any further information
- Any further queries, please email postbox@st-annes.walsall.sc.uk
- You will be informed of your child's results in their end of year report.



