



Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy

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Dear Year 1 Parents

Re: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

I am writing to inform you that all children in Year 1 will be taking part in a statutory Phonics Screening Check. This will be taking place during the week 11-15 June. Results of the check will be communicated to you at the end of the summer term, and will be enclosed with your child's report.

The check will consist of 40 words and will be a mixture of real words and nonsense words. You may be wondering, why nonsense words form part of the check. The Government's view is that it is important to include non-words because words such as 'vap' or 'jound' are new to all children. Children will be unable to read the non-words by using their memory or vocabulary; they will have to use their decoding skills and hence it is a fair way to assess their ability to decode. Please read through the information sheet attached for more detail.

Over half term, you may wish to practise some phonics with your child. As discussed at our Writing and Phonics workshop an excellent website to generate some real words and pseudo words is

www.oxfordphonicschecksupport.co.uk – you will need to register but this is free

www.oxfordowl.co.uk – this is an excellent resource to use electronic Phonic books with your child

Children who do not meet the required standard will participate in a programme of intervention during their time in Year 2 and will be re-assessed in June next year. I would like to stress at this point, that not meeting the required standard, is not a reflection of a child's reading ability; it is simply a check on an ability to remember certain sounds and to be able to blend. Indeed, some children who do not meet the required standard will be very good readers and have no problems with decoding when reading texts. As parents, you will know, if your child is making progress with their reading and if there is a cause for concern.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

L Minter
Headteacher