## An Introduction to Phonics at Ashton Keynes Primary School.





#### Phonics is the gateway to successful reading and writing. A passport to literacy success.

#### I will be:

- Giving you a whistle stop tour of phonics!
- Explaining the methods we use to teach phonics.
- Giving you ways to help support your child at home with phonics and reading.
- Answering any questions about phonics.

- In Class R we teach phonics every morning after play.
- During each phonics lesson there will be:
- 1. Whole class teaching in which a new sound or new words are introduced.
- 2. Adult led phonics activities with groups of children.
- 3. Independent, play-based phonic activities inside and outside including star challenges!



- At Ashton Keynes we teach phonics using a six phase teaching programme adapted from Letters and Sounds.
- This is a systematic approach which will continue until the end of Year 2.



## Where we began....

- During the first two weeks we continued to develop the phase 1 skills already introduced at preschool.
- 1. Tuning into sounds
- 2. Listening and remembering sounds
- 3. Talking about sounds
- From week 3 we introduced phase 2:
- 1. Introducing the first 19 sounds (4 per week)
- 2. Blending and segmenting to read and spell CV (consonant vowel) and CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words
- 3. Reading some High Frequency words and some tricky words

- Although there are 26 letters in the alphabet there are 44 speech sounds in the English language.
- Pronunciation
- As soon as children are able to recognise 4 or more sounds, we will encourage them to blend the sounds together to form words.
- Sound fingers
- Sound buttons

#### Sound Fans

- Your child will have received a sound fan with the sounds we have learnt so far.
- Please encourage your child to play with the fans and begin to blend the sounds together to create words.
- Each Friday your child's fan will have new sounds added to it. Please ensure it is kept in their bag at all times.



## And then...

- We will move onto phase 3 whilst continuing to recap and build upon the skills already learnt in phase 2.
- The children will begin to learn the 25 more complex
  2 and 3 letter sounds which will be added to their sound fans.
- They will be blending one and two syllable words and reading captions and sentences.
- They will be writing words and captions and practising letter formation skills.

## Reading Books

- Soon your child will come home with a decodable reading book to share with you.
- Some books will have no words to encourage your child to tell the story themselves.
- Some books will have simple text which initially you will may need to read to your child.
- You can encourage them to point to the words as you read, spot sounds they recognise and blend very simple words.
- Gradually they will take over and begin to read themselves.

- The reading books are expertly aligned to Letters and Sounds to ensure all pupils move from decoding words to reading fluently and for pleasure.
- Each book will contain words with a select few sounds.
- Please ensure you sign the reading record book every time you hear your child read.
- We will hear your child read and change their books twice a week.

## Handwriting

- As we teach new letters we are also introducing basic letter formation and encouraging all children to have a go at forming some letters. Sometimes in sand, paint, mud, shaving foam as well as on paper.
- Our school handwriting scheme is based on a cursive formation however we will begin by teaching the children the basic formation first.

# How can you support your child at home?

- Use the sound fans.
- Read regularly, not just books but signs, logos, magazines...
- Word books.
- Watch our video 'How to read with your child'.
- Practise, practise, practise!



#### Useful websites:

- <u>www.jollylearning.co.uk</u>
- <u>www.**phonicsplay**.co.uk</u>
- <u>www.ictgames.com</u>
- www.oxfordowl.co.uk
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW\_v-1s