

Useful websites/Apps

<http://www.mrthorne.com/> If you are unsure how to correctly pronounce any of the sounds go to **Mr. Thorne Does Phonics** where you can watch videos of Mr. Thorne or his friend Geraldine the Giraffe teach the sound and discuss words including it. He also has apps for Android and Apple available.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk This is a very popular website we use regularly in our phonics lessons. The children will be familiar with the website and its games. Some of our favourite games are:

- Flashcards
- Buried Treasure
- Dragons Den
- Picnic on Pluto
- Reading Robot

Some of the games are available for free, others require a subscription (only £12 for a year).

Twinkl Phonics App This app includes lots of different sections covering phonic sounds, letter formation, high frequency words and games such as buried treasure and matching games.

Alphablocks This is not a website we have used in class but it involves interactive videos that children can watch and then are able to make up words with the given letters. It allows them to practise sound recognition and blending.

More websites with phonics games on:

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>

<http://www.schooljotter.com/showpage.php?id=183569>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/>

REMEMBER:

Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader.

Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to:

Sound out

Re-read to check it makes sense

Use pictures for clues

Ask questions about the book

And most importantly ENJOY READING!

Please contact

Mrs Large (Head of school)

Mrs Dunn (Deputy head teacher
and Literacy lead)

if you have any more questions.

West Didsbury CE
Primary School

Parent's Guide to Reading for Reception Parents 2021



What is reading?

Reading is the ability to decode and interpret a written word.

Learning to read can be hard!

Early reading consists of reading words that they already know, working out others from the pictures and using their phonic knowledge and lots of help from us!

What is phonics?

Children are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds or 'phonemes'. They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word.

Children have a 30mins phonics lesson each day and they are encouraged to use these strategies to read and write in other lessons.

There are around 40 different sounds.

Phonics involves blending phonemes for reading and segmenting phonemes for spelling

Terminology in phonics

Phoneme: The smallest unit of sound that are found within a word eg a, d p

Grapheme: The spelling of the sound and how it is written down e.g. sh,

Digraph: Two letters that make one sound when read eg oa, ee

Trigraphs: Three letters that make one sound eg igh air

CVC: Stands for consonant, vowel, consonant. Eg cat, pen

Blending : Putting the sounds together to read a word such as c/a/t. Children need to be able to hear the separate sounds in a word and then blend them together to say the whole word

Segmenting: Breaking up a word into its sounds such as dog d/o/g. Children need to be able to hear a whole word and say every sound that they hear

Tricky words

Some words have to be learnt on sight because the children don't have the advanced sound knowledge they need to work it out.

Examples of these words in reception are;

I, go, no, said

Help on reading at home

- ✓ Make reading an enjoyable shared activity
- ✓ Read daily for no longer than 15 minutes
- ✓ Continue to build 'sight' vocabulary of words
- ✓ Allow your child to see you reading a variety of texts
- ✓ Encourage expressive reading when reading aloud – use silly voices for characters' speech!
- ✓ Encourage fluency by re-reading a section of the book to improve understanding and speed
- ✓ Encourage your child to predict what might happen next
- ✓ Encourage your child to talk about the characters, setting and plot
- ✓ Encourage your child to retell the main elements of the story in sequence using the book/pictures
- ✓ Encourage your child to talk about their likes and dislikes of a book
- ✓ Encourage your child to talk about and read nonfiction books as well as fiction books