

Information for parents / carers

Your child's reading journey

Nursery Autumn term



Welcome to the beginning of the most wonderful journey in which your child, whatever their starting point, will become a fluent, confident reader who loves books! For many children at the start of Nursery, letters look like squiggles on the page and have no connection to sounds. Learning that letters and sounds are linked – phonics – is the key to reading. In Nursery this term, we will teach children the routines of school life and focus on rhyming skills and support children in ‘tuning into sounds’. After half term, we will teach your children to recognise some of the initial Phase 2 sounds and oral blending of words containing these sounds.

All for the love of reading

Reading enables children to function successfully in our increasingly text-filled world. But research also tells us that:

- Reading develops children's vocabulary, understanding of the world and empathy.
- A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success!

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised teaches children to read and to love reading.

What will my child be taught in school this term?

- This term, your child will be taught phonics for 20 minutes every day.
- They will learn to recognise rhyming words, the initial Phase 2 sounds and begin their understanding and ability to orally blend known words.
- We will provide your child with daily additional practice if they need it and provide wordless books for you to share at home.

How can I read a wordless book?!

- Wordless books are invaluable as they teach reading behaviours and early reading skills to children who are not yet blending.
- Talk to your child about what they can see in the pictures.
- Point to the images in the circles and find them on the page.
- Encourage your child to make links from the book to their own experiences.

What can I do to support my child at home?

- Ask them what sounds they have learned each week and point out objects in the environment or in books that start with that sound.
- Read to your child daily – choose books that you can enjoy together. The love of reading books we send home are a great place to start!
- Ask your child's teacher if you need extra help with supporting your child – that's what we're here for!
- Attend our Phonics and Early Reading parent workshop in the Autumn term- you will receive a letter containing more information in due course.

Grown-up homework!

Here are some quick activities and links to give you the confidence to support your child with phonics.

1. Watch the videos for parents

Go to the 'For parents' area of the Little Wandle website (see link below) and watch the following videos:

- Phase 2 sounds taught in Nursery

2. Help your child develop a love of reading

Try to do one or more of the following with your child this term.

- Visit your local library
- Find a book to buy in your local charity shop
- Learn a Nursery Rhyme together
- Make a special time every day for sharing books.

Find further resources and information for parents and carers at:
www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents

Many thanks for your support,

Miss Lovell (Phonics Lead)

How to say the Phase 2 sounds

If the child cannot make accurate speech sounds, accept the sounds they make.

Grapheme card	Picture card	Pronunciation phrase
		Show your teeth and let the s hiss out ssssss
		Open your mouth wide and make the a sound at the back of your mouth a
		Open your lips; put the tip of your tongue behind your teeth and press t
		Bring your lips together, push them open and say p
		Pull your lips back and make the l sound at the back of your mouth l
		Open your lips a bit; put your tongue behind your teeth and make the nnnnn sound nnnnn
		Put your lips together and make the mmmmm sound mmmmm
		Put your tongue to the top and front of your mouth and make a quick d sound d
		Give me a big smile that shows your teeth; press the middle of your tongue to the top and back of your mouth; push your tongue down and forward to make the g sound g
		Make your mouth into a round shape and say o