



Thursday 22nd May 2025

Phonics Screening Check- Year 1 pupils

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

In June, Year 1 children nationally take part in the statutory Phonics Screening Check, to check that they can read sounds in words accurately. This year's Phonics Screening Check will take place over the course of two weeks between Tuesday 3rd June and Friday 13th June. The Phonics Screening Check is a word reading test which includes 40 words, some real and some pseudo words (alien or non-sense words). The check is designed to assess if children can read words at an age-appropriate level.

At SWB, we aim to make sure that every child learns to read successfully by the end of Year 1 so that they are set up for success in school and their future. We therefore teach phonics by following the systematic synthetic Jolly Phonics programme daily. We also provide 1:1 tutoring to a small number of pupils who we have identified would benefit from this extra provision.

Reading is about accuracy and not speed. Please remind your child to sound out and read each word slowly as you continue hearing your child read their decodable books that are sent home each week. Even if they are confident readers, we encourage everyone to follow this routine when reading unfamiliar words, to ensure they do not miss out any sounds.

If you have any questions about phonics or the Phonics Screening Check, please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team.

Yours sincerely,

David Hodges
Senior Deputy Headteacher