Information - Year 1

There are 26 letters and 44 sounds and there are a variety of ways to make each sound.

At St Katherine's we follow a quality first phonics programme called **Sounds Write**. The Programme consists of three parts;

- Initial Code - taught in Year R
- Extended Code – taught in Year 1 -3
- Polysyllabic words – taught Year 1-6

In Year R your child was taught the **Initial-Code** units which introduce and teach the basic English alphabet code (Please see attached Initial Code sound mat).

Now they are in Year 1 they have moved on to begin learning the **Extended Code** ((Please see attached Extended Code sound mat). The Extended Code is the point at which the alphabet code becomes more complex and Children learn that;

- Some sound symbols (graphemes) represent more than one sound ('ea' in steak, bread, sea)
- Many sounds (phonemes) can be represented by more than one grapheme (e.g. spelled in more than one way
  for example, ay, ea, a-e, ai)

Segmenting
When spelling or writing words children are taught to segment or separate the sounds apart.

Blending
Children are also taught how to blend sounds or put sounds together to read words. To do this they need to spot the sounds within a word and push or blend them together to read the word.

Sounds-Write
If you would like to learn more about how Sounds-Write is used there are now free courses for available for parents;
https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write/

https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write-part-2/

How can parents help?

- Listen to your child read the book sent home every day, encouraging them to develop fluency and expression.
- When writing, help them to say words slowly listening carefully to all the sounds they can hear.
- Write a word and count the sounds or draw lines under each sound.
- Do a sound search where you find words in a book containing a specific sound.
- Play sound bingo.
- Go on a sound hunt.

There are also lots of websites where there are many free activities and games for children.

- https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/
  Username - stkaths
  Password - school2022



Phonics Assessment in Year 1

In June all Year 1 children across the country will take a 'phonics screening check'.

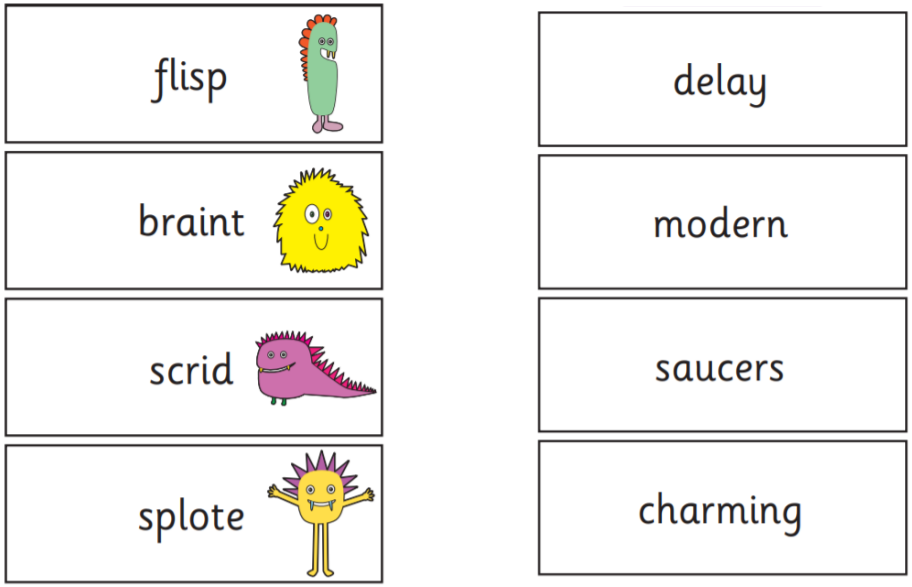
The aim of this check is to ensure that children have confidently learnt to recognise all 40+ phonemes, and that they are able to blend and segment appropriately. These are vital reading skills.

During the check your child will read 40 words of increasing complexity. 20 of them are real words and 20 are pseudo (made-up) words. Your child will have spent a lot of time in school practising this and will be used to completing similar activities in class.

Y2 children who did not pass in Y1 will also re-sit the check during the same week.

The check is there to help us recognise any gaps in your child's phonic knowledge, and to show their fluency when reading and decoding words. We like to see it as a useful tool!!

You will be informed as to whether your child passed the screening check in the summer. We will not know a pass mark until it is released nationally in the summer, so cannot tell you before then.



a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
								

j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r
								

s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	Initial Code
								

ll	ss	zz	ch	tch	sh	th	ck	ng	ff	ve
										

Extended Code

ai	ay	ea	
e	ea	ee	y
o	oa	ow	oe
er	ir	or	ur
e	ea	ai	
ou	ow		
i	ie	y	igh
oo	ew	ue	o
oo	u	ou	
u	ou	o	
s	ss	st	c
ce	se	sc	
l	ll	el	il
le	ol		
or	aw	a	ar
au	al		
air	are	ear	ere
eir	ayer	ayor	
ue	ew	u	
oi	oy		
ar	a	al	au
o	a		