Information - Year R

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

The Initial-Code contains units which introduce and teach the basic English alphabet code and children are taught to read and spell cvc words containing these sounds (e.g. cat);

Unit 1: a, i, m, s, t

Unit 2: n, o, p

Unit 3: b, c, g, h

Unit 4: d, f, v, e

Unit 5: k, l, r, u

Unit 6: j, w, z

Unit 7: x, y, ff, ll, ss

They then move on to learn to read and spell words with more complex structures (cvcc – e.g bench / ccvc – e.g black / ccvcc – e.g. slept / cvccc – e.g. bumps / cccvc – e.g. scrap).

They then continue to be introduced to more complex sound spellings;

Unit 11: sh, ch, th, ck, wh, ng, <q> <u>

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

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
										