

Welcome to our Phonics and Early Reading Information Session for Nursery



The session will be split into 2 sections:

- Part 1 : Information about how we teach phonics
- Part 2: How you can support your child at home



What is phonics?

- Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write.
- It helps children to hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.



Some terms explained...

- **Phonics**: The teaching of reading by developing awareness of the sounds in words and the corresponding letters used to represent those sounds
- **Phoneme**: Any one of the 44 sounds which make up words in the English language
- **Blending**: Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it
e.g. f – r- o- g frog



What scheme do we use?



As a school, we use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme.

Why Little Wandle?

- Training for all staff in school to ensure consistency
- Every aspect of phonics and reading is included
- Engaging resources without distracting from the learning
- Comprehensive system for identifying and supporting children requiring extra help
- Useful support for parents



How we teach phonics in Nursery

- Children take part in a daily short session using LW resources from Reception class onwards.
- In nursery this starts with the foundations for phonics programme, which is a series of phonological and phonemic awareness games to prepare the children ready for more formal phonics sessions in Reception class.
- Nursery is the stepping stone to becoming a reader. These foundations are so important for the children's later reading journey. It's important that we focus on building children's language through daily interactions and through sharing quality stories and reading time together
- So far, the children have been enjoying sound walks where they hunt for objects beginning with a specific sound.



How we teach phonics in Nursery

- Children also listen to nursery rhymes as building children's knowledge of nursery rhymes has been proven to help them become better readers later in life.
- This will move on to more structured sessions where children play games such as 'What's in the box?' This is where there are a range of items in the teachers special box which begin with a specific sound to teach.
- We encourage language development through facilitating role play opportunities and for children to act out stories using props and puppets
- We will begin to make opportunities for oral blending where we sound out a word to the children and blend to say the word e.g. c-a-t cat



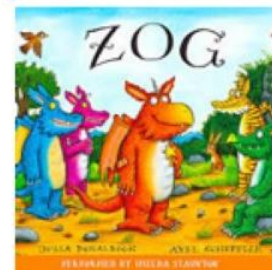
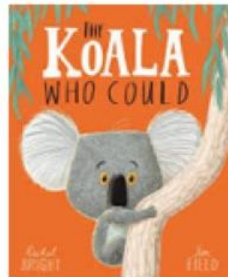
Phase 2: Little Wandle has a picture mnemonic to help children remember the phoneme/grapheme. The children will be introduced to SATPIN sounds to begin. They will be familiar with the pictures that match each phase 2 sound by the end of nursery.

More on this when your child joins Reception class.



Reading for pleasure

- Children will also bring home a reading for pleasure book from their class library each week. This will be changed weekly.
- To become lifelong readers it is essential that they read for pleasure
- These books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures, learning story language and spotting patterns and for enjoying together as a family. They help to build children's imaginations as well as teaching them about the world around them



How can you support your child at home?

- Remember that it's important to develop the foundations for your child's future reading journey:
- Share books with your child for pleasure. Don't worry if your child wants to keep reading their favourite. This will get them used to the repetitive language and help them to join in with the book
- Spot rhyming words and think of more that could rhyme with them
- Ask the children to join in with repetitive text such as 'We're going on a bear hunt...'
- Ask children to finish the sentence in the story of well known books
- Do the actions together
- Do the different voices for the characters together



How can you support your child at home?

- Have a go at acting out the story, discuss the pictures and talk about the story
- Be reading role models: make sure children know when you are reading to inform or for pleasure e.g. reading the news/looking at a magazine, looking at the weather
- Play games such as I Spy...
- Make reading a part of everyday life even if the actual book is not with you - For example, go on a bear hunt walk using repetitive language "We are going through some mud squelch squerch."



How can you support your child at home?

- Remind them of stories you have read together which are relevant to everyday life e.g. going to the dentist.
- Recite a favourite poem with them.
- Visit a museum or go on a day out and read some of the labels to them.
- Read road signs or labels in the supermarket.
- Look at environmental print such as logo's.
- Follow a recipe together or instructions for making something.
- Listen to audio books in the car.
- Make a shopping list for them to help with the shopping.
- Share nursery rhymes with your child and teach these to them with the actions.
- Teach your child how to handle a book and turn the pages themselves.
- Teach them how to love and care for books.

How can you support your child at home?

[For parents | Letters and Sounds \(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk\)](http://littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)



Join the library

- If you haven't done so already, join the library.

This is completely free and gives your child access to a wealth of reading for pleasure material.

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/reading-information/libraries/joining-and-using-libraries/>

You can join by following the link above and then popping into your chosen library to pick up your library card.

- It's worth following your local library on Facebook as they have lots of activities to promote reading for pleasure that are often on after school, at weekends and during school holidays. Lots of these are free to join in with.
- If you can attend, Mansfield Library does a rattle, rhyme and roll session every Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-10:30am



Read a bedtime story to your child

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.

Dr. Seuss

- Research from the Books Trust suggests that only 28% of Primary school aged children hear a bedtime story every night.
- Reading to your child for just 10 minutes a day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and can also improve parent/child relationships

