



29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Phonics in Early Years

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, we are now using **Read Write Inc** for phonics and reading. This means children will read books that closely match their phonics level.

Each week, children will be given **videos on Google Classroom** to support their learning. Please watch these with your child. Please also make sure your child brings their **phonics folder to school every day**.

To support the children with their learning, we have outlined below what each group will be focussing on in their daily phonics session and what you can do to support them at home. With Read Write Inc, children will begin to read physical books once they have secure sound knowledge and have progressed to Red Group. This is to enable them to build confidence and enjoyment for reading, seeing and reading sounds and words that they know. We will go through this in more detail in the workshop planned for 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm.

#### What is my child focusing on in phonics and what can I do at home to help?

##### Group B

Children are practising their **single sounds**.

Please practise:

- Sound flashcards (in the phonics folder)
- 'Fred Talk' (e.g. c-a-t) - The adult will Fred Talk a word - your child copies with Fred Talk and then says the word
- The adults makes a simple word using the flashcards and your child reads it to you (you may need to model this first)
- A phonics sound sheet



##### Group C

Children are practising:

- Sound flashcards (in the phonics folder)
- The adult makes a word with flashcard, your child will read it using Fred Talk (e.g. j-a-m)
- Adult says a word using Fred Talk - child makes the word with flashcards
- A word sheet to practise

### Ditty Group

Children now know their single sounds and are learning '**special friends**' (two letters, one sound - digraph e.g. ch in cheese)

They are reading a **ditty** in school. Once they can read it confidently with automaticity and fluency, they will bring it home to read.

They also have flashcards to practise in their phonics folder.

### Red Group and beyond

Children are reading **red books** (or beyond) in school.

Once they can read the book confidently in school, it will be available to read at home on the **Oxford Owl website**.

Login details are in your child's home learning diary.

They will also have flashcards and red words to practise in their phonics folder.

### Reading at home

To support your child with their reading journey, we ask that you read to them each day as this will help develop their enjoyment of stories as well as expose them to new language through rich texts.

Children will still change their **reading for pleasure** book on their usual day. We will be practising these skills with your children daily, during their phonics lesson. We will look at their reading diaries on the day in which they change their book. With the format of Read Write Inc, and us reading with the children daily, we will not record in their reading diaries.

One of the benefits of Read Write Inc scheme is that your child reads the book a number of times to secure their phonic knowledge. Re reading the text also allows them to develop speed reading (reading familiar words on site quickly and accurately), fluency and expression. This in turn helps them to comprehend what they are reading. As books online match the books we have read in school, we can ensure that a child re-reads the same book to support their reading journey.

Once your child moves into Red Group and begins to read books in school, we will then set this book on Oxford Owl to read again at home. **Please speak directly to your child's class teacher if you do not have access to a suitable device to read their book on Oxford Owl.** As we continue to move to the new scheme, we will be building up our stock of Read Write Inc reading books. In the meantime, we will work closely with families to ensure that every child has access to reading materials that are closely matched to their phonic and reading stage.

Thank you for your continued support.

The EY Team