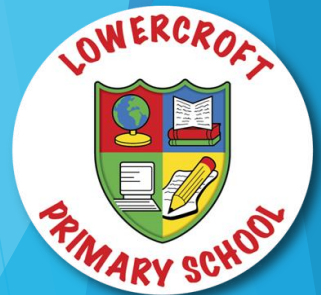


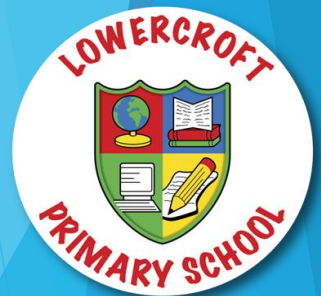
Year 1 Phonics Information Evening

Tuesday 23rd January, 2024



Our tricky language

- ▶ The alphabet contains only 26 letter sounds, yet spoken English uses about 42 sounds (**phonemes**).
- ▶ These phonemes are represented by letters (**graphemes**). A phoneme can be represented by a single letter (e.g. 's' or 'h') or a group of letters (e.g. 'th' or 'air').
- ▶ When a phoneme is made up of two letters we call it a **digraph** and a **trigraph** is one made of three letters.

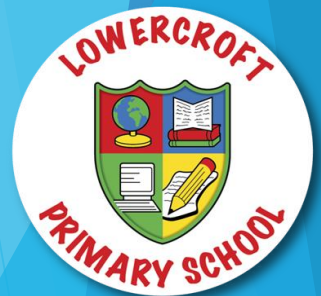


Phonics in Year 1

- ▶ Change of focus. In YR children have already learned ways to represent each of the 42 sounds (phonemes).
- ▶ In Y1 we introduce alternative ways to write these phonemes down (**graphemes**) and begin to teach them rules for which grapheme to use, so that they can learn to make **spelling choices**.

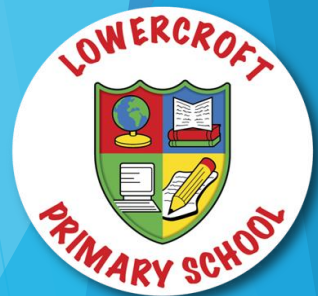
All this is done in addition to making sure that the children understand phonics can't be used for some words.

Those 'tricky words' just have to be learned!



Articulating the sounds

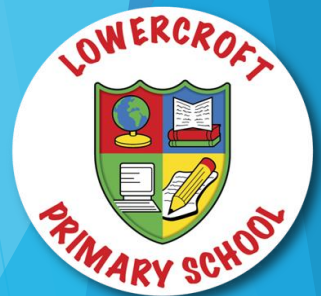
- ▶ The main difference to the way in which you would have been taught in school, is in the way in which we **say** the sounds.
- ▶ Remember to keep the sounds short and snappy, 't' not 'ter', 'l' not 'ler', 'n' not 'ner', 'f' not 'fer' etc.
- ▶ For example, when we lengthen the sound, fluff becomes ...
- ▶ **Fer-ler-u-fer**
- ▶ Top tip: Whispering helps to shorten the sounds!



Blending and Segmenting

- ▶ **Blending** phonemes together is for reading - sound it out then blend
- ▶ **Segmenting** is for spelling. The children listen to the phonemes that they can hear in the word, writing down each one individually.
- ▶ Remind your child to chop the word up.

LOOK CHOP BLEND

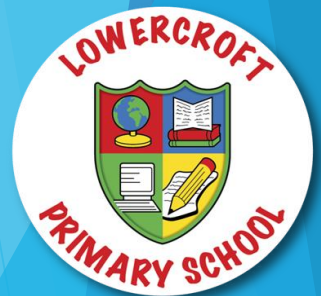


Assessing your child in phonics

- ▶ We assess your child regularly on their knowledge and recall of all sounds from Phase 2, Phase 3 and Phase 5. (NB. There are no new phonemes in Phase 4!)
- ▶ Any gaps in their knowledge will be recorded and a note of the sounds which need some consolidation will be sent home regularly.
- ▶ It is vital that children address these gaps - this will help not only in their reading, but in their spelling choices when writing too.

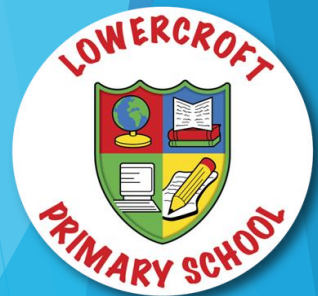
Phonics Screening Check

- ▶ All children who are in Y1 have to undertake the statutory Phonics Screening Check in June, set by the DfE.
- ▶ It isn't a reading test and consequently good readers can make mistakes.
- ▶ It is vitally important that children know all the phonemes they have been taught so far in Y1 but also from YR.



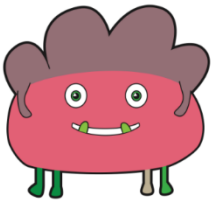



Phonics Screening Check

- ▶ The check takes about 10 minutes to administer and it's done 1 to 1 with your child's class teacher - Owls with Mrs Kay, Dolphins with Mrs Parkinson.
- ▶ The check requires them to read 20 real words and 20 pseudo (alien) words.
- ▶ Children who don't achieve the standard will need to resit the test in Year 2.
- ▶ The result will be included in your child's summer report.



What does it look like?

Section 1

dack	
chob	
nurt	
queet	

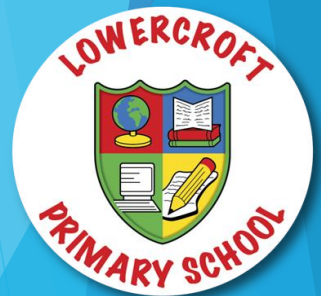
Section 2

law
glued
zoom
rice

What score do they need?

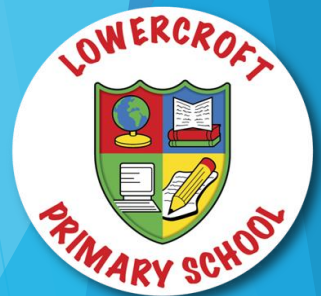
- ▶ The mark threshold for a pass isn't given us until the screening window has closed.
- ▶ In previous years it has always been 32, but we never know for sure!
- ▶ Children who are a few marks either side of the 'on track' threshold could go either way so...

Your support will be vital!



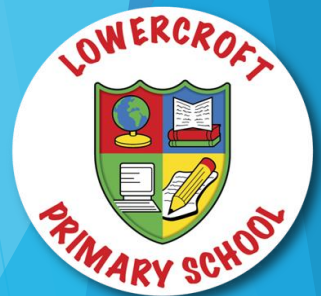
What we are doing...

- ▶ Phonics is taught daily as a discrete subject for 20 minutes, but also features as a 'first line of attack' when reading/writing in ALL subjects.
- ▶ Children who find phonics a challenge will be given additional support in both phonics and reading.
- ▶ Class teachers are constantly assessing children and if we think your child may benefit from extra practice for the check, we will let you know in the next few weeks.
- ▶ Even if you haven't heard from us please continue to practice saying the sounds and blending them together.



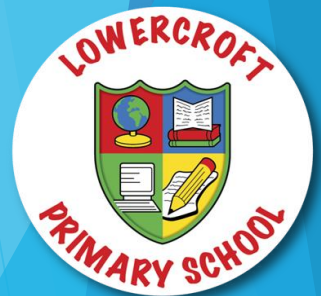
What you can do to help...

- ▶ **Practise** the phonemes in your child's 'Sound Books' from both YR and Y1. Pay particular attention to split digraphs; **a-e**, **e-e**, **i-e**, **o-e**, **u-e** ('oo' and 'y-oo').
- ▶ **Play** games online, perhaps on Phonics Play and Twinkl websites. Both have an app which can be downloaded.
- ▶ **Practise** blending and segmenting. This is really important for good readers too.
- ▶ **Encourage** them to look carefully at the sounds. Some words are tricky! **Strom** and **nigh** are recent examples that have tripped children up.



Finally...

- ▶ Whilst we don't send spellings home for children to learn each week, they are taught to spell a range of words some of which are phonetic. Those which are not, known as the Common Exception Words, have to be learned by sight.
- ▶ Children will be tested regularly on these words and a list will be sent home of any words which need consolidation.
- ▶ A copy of these words can be found at the back of your class booklet and on the class pages of the school website.



Any Questions?

