



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

A Multi Academy Company

— Together as one community with Christ at the centre —



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St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School
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Tuesday 13th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Phonics Screening Check

Your child was due to take the Phonics Screening Check in Year 1 last June, but this was cancelled by the government due to COVID-19. The government has announced that the screen must be taken by children in Year 2 during the second half of the autumn term 2020 (between October half term and Christmas).

What does the Phonics Screening Check involve?

Your child will complete the check with their class teacher. They will be asked to sound out and read 40 words. The words will be a mixture of real words and nonsense words. Pictures of imaginary creatures are used to indicate which words are nonsense words. Before starting the check, your child will have the opportunity to read some practice words so that they are familiar with what they need to do. It takes most children between 4 and 9 minutes to complete the check. Any children who do not meet the expected standard in the autumn check will receive additional support with phonics and will have the opportunity to retake the check in June 2021.

The following video clips provide further information which you will find useful:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXOJUPNVnLc> (phonics guide for parents)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbKGLJPp6ww> (information about the phonics screening check)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc> (how to pronounce the sounds)

Your child is taking part in daily phonics lessons to help to prepare them for the check. These lessons include regular opportunities to read real and nonsense words. Any additional support that you can provide for your child at home will, of course, benefit him/her greatly.

How can I support my child in phonics at home?

1. Read with your child for 10 minutes every day. Encourage them to sound out any words that they are not familiar with. Make sure that your child pronounces the sounds correctly.
2. Support your child to complete their phonics homework. This will be set every Friday using Purple Mash and will usually take the form of interactive games.



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3. Help your child to practise sounding out and reading real and nonsense words using the flashcards attached to this letter.
4. Play some of the free phase 5 Phonics Play games with your child.
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/5>

We appreciate that there is a lot of information included in this letter. Under more normal circumstances, we would have arranged a meeting so that you could come into school and discuss any questions you have with us. Unfortunately, this is not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please contact the school office by email or telephone if you have any questions or concerns about the Phonics Screening Check and one of us will get in touch with you.

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes,

The Year 2 Teaching Team



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