

Dear parents,

Just a note of explanation for the little book your child will be bringing home next week. Please read the part that applies to your child's year group. Do ask if you have any questions.

Reception: Letters and sounds book.

We teach the children the sounds of the alphabet in a specific order we follow the order as laid out in Letters and sounds (you can find all the information you will need on: www.letters-and-sounds.com) this term we will recap phase 1 and begin phase 2. As we cover sounds each week we will stick them in to this book. Regular reinforcement and practise at home really does help to embed these sounds early on. We are aware that some of the children already know some or many sounds. We will still add these sounds to their books and encourage the children who are confident with the sounds to say or write words that begin with that sound, and to write the letter correctly. We also learn tricky words, which are words which do not sound out phonetically that the children have to learn to recognise on sight, such as "the". You will also find these stuck in to the book as we learn them. We will also send these words home on cards in a pouch in the back of the book. When we feel your child knows them we will swap them for new words.

Year 1: Spelling books.

Every Wednesday we will insert a set of spelling words into this book for your child to learn and practise with you at home. These words may be words with sounds the children have previously met, or new sounds. Some weeks the words might be "tricky" words which are words which do not sound out phonetically such as "the". The children will previously have learnt to recognise these on sight and will need to learn to spell them too. We will check if the children can spell their words the following week but this will be in a fun way as opposed to a formal "test". We have recently assessed the children to see if they have any gaps in their phonics learning from reception. If this is the case for your child you will find sounds and tricky words in the back of your child's spelling book to revise and practise at home to keep them up to speed for their new year one learning. The letters and sounds website mentioned above has some interactive games and some ideas on helping your child learn these words. We will be reviewing phase 3&4 and introducing phase 5 sounds this term.

Thank you.

Mrs Dawson and Mrs Perry.