

Newchurch Community Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

22nd April 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year One Phonics Screening Check

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to inform you about the upcoming Phonics Screening Check that all Year One pupils across the country will be taking part in during the week beginning Monday 9th June 2025. We have decided to administer the checks on Tuesday 10th June and Wednesday 11th June. Should any child be absent in that week, we will complete them later in the week and also have the week after to administer them should we need to.

The Phonics Screening Check is a short, simple assessment designed to confirm whether your child has learned the phonics skills expected by the end of Year One. It also helps us to identify children who may need additional support with reading.

The check involves your child reading a selection of real and pseudo (made-up) words aloud to a familiar adult, such as their class teacher. The pseudo words are included to assess decoding skills and will be shown with a picture of an alien to help children understand that the word is not real.

Please be assured that the check is carried out in a relaxed and positive environment, and we always ensure that the children are comfortable and well-prepared. Most children find the experience enjoyable and treat it like a normal phonics activity as we have practiced it in preparation for the real thing.

In the lead-up to the check, we will continue to support your child in school through daily phonics lessons and regular reading practice. You can also help at home by reading with your child regularly and practicing sounds and blends they have learned in class.

As detailed in the diary of dates on the newsletter, we will be holding a short Phonics Information meeting on Wednesday 23rd April at 5:30pm. This will explain how you can help your child and what to



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expect, including how you the results will be reported to you. Please see our school website for the privacy notice which explains how your child's data is used.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Jayne Narraway

Headteacher

