Dear Parents

<u>Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Autumn 2020</u>

Each year in June, all Year 1 pupils are assessed on their ability to use their phonetic knowledge to read words. This is carried out using the Phonic Screening Check, which consists of a mixture of 40 words: some real words and some pseudo (made-up) words. All the words are phonetically decodable. Parents are informed whether their child has 'met' or 'not met' the threshold in the check. The threshold in previous years has been to accurately read 32 out 40 words.

If a child has 'not met' the threshold of the Phonics Screening Check in Year 1, they would follow a phonics support programme during Year 2 and must retake the Phonics Screening Check the following June.

Due to COVID-19 and the school closure in 2020, all assessments were suspended by the Department for Education. This means that the current Year 2 children were not assessed using the phonics Screening Check in Year 1 and will now be required to be to take the Phonics Screening Check during the second half of this Autumn term. We are planning to administer the Phonics Check from week commencing 30th November 2020. Those children who do not meet the threshold this term will continue with extra phonics and will be required to retake the Phonics Check in June 2021.

In preparation for the Phonics Check, all children have been having daily phonics and lots of opportunities to read in school. The children are also familiar with the format of the Phonics Check which was introduced to them during Year 1. The Phonics Check is carried out in a one-to-one situation with their class teacher. It typically takes between 4 and 9 minutes to complete and is usually seen as a fun phonics activity.

You can help your child at home by playing some of the phonic games we play in school, which can be found on the Phonics Play website here:
https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/

If you have any questions about the Phonics Screening Check, please speak to Mrs Mousley or Mrs Nighy.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Kanisius