

Phonics

For the next half term we will introduce your child to four letter sounds a week. They will be learning to say, recognise, read and write the letters. When writing, they will be learning to print the letters and will then progress onto learning a lead out when ready.

We will put a strip of letter sounds and individual letter sounds that match each week. These are the focus sounds from the week. Please help your child to say the sounds when shown the letter. There are lots of videos on You Tube that help demonstrate the correct way of saying the sound for example, 'Mr Thorne Does Phonics' - 'How to Learn the Letters and Sounds of the Alphabet'. Some children will learn these sounds quickly and some take longer. When supporting your child try to keep the session short and fun. Help your child to write the letter as they say it using the correct pencil grip. This could be using pens, pencils, paints, chalks, crayons, play dough or sand. You could try using the large paint brushes dipped in water and encourage your child to write with water on the ground, fences or a wall.

Once your child has learnt the first 6 sounds they will be reading and writing a number of words such as sat, sit, it, at, pit, pat, nit, tap, tip, tan and tin. They should be encouraged to put their sounds together and make words by sounding out each letter and blending the sounds. You could try using a timer to see how many words you can read or spell together in a minute. As each set of sounds is learnt the children will be given the opportunity to read and write an increasing number of words. We will then begin to send home tricky word and high frequency word cards for you to support your child in learning to read some words on sight.

Learning to write and form the letters correctly is as important as learning to read the sounds. If your child is already confident with the early sounds we send home, this is great, please support them to form the letters correctly and begin writing words using the sounds they are learning.

Please ensure that this phonics pack lives in your child's book bag when you are not using it.

Please don't hesitate to speak to us in person or by email should you have any questions.

Miss Gemma McCarter - Ladybirds gmccarter@epsom.surrey.sch.uk

Miss Hayley Merritt - Butterflies hmerritt@epsom.surrey.sch.uk

Mrs Louise James - Grasshoppers ljames@epsom.surrey.sch.uk

