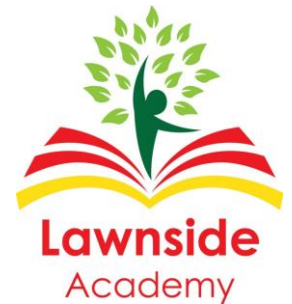


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Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to invite you to attend a session about the upcoming phonics screening check and the things you can do to help your child achieve the best they can in their reading.

This session will take place on Friday 29th April at 3pm in the hall.

The Year 1 phonics screening check is not a formal test, but it is a 'light touch' statutory assessment that schools must administer. It gives a view of pupils' ability to apply their phonic skills and if they have reached age related expectations. The phonics screening check is taken individually by all children in Year 1 in England during the month of June. It is designed to give teachers and parents information on how their child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage, so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.

#### What is in the Phonics Screening Check?

The phonics screening check consists of 40 words that assess phonics skills and knowledge learned throughout Reception and Year 1. There is a combination of 20 real words and 20 'pseudo-words' (nonsense / alien words). Children sit the check on a 1 to 1 basis, with their class teacher. There is no time limit but children normally complete the check in one sitting (around 5-10 minutes). It is not a stressful situation: your child's class teacher will be well-equipped to listen and understand your child's level of skills. There will be a few practice words first to make sure your child understands the activity and feels comfortable.

I look forward to seeing you on the 29th April at 3pm.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. L. Blackford  
Phonics Lead Teacher

