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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Michelle Thomas
Headteacher: Ms Jess Hutchison

Wednesday 25th April 2018

Dear Year 1 Families,

Re: Year 1 Phonics Testing

As you may be aware, all primary schools in England and Wales are obliged to carry out a Year 1 Phonics Screening Test during the week beginning Monday 10th June.

The test will involve a short, simple screening check to make sure that all pupils have grasped fundamental phonics knowledge and skills before leaving Year 1. During the assessment, children will be asked to read 40 decodable words, half real words and half nonsense words. There is a picture of an alien by each nonsense word to remind the children that it is not a real word. The words will mostly contain two or three sounds with some longer words such as 'tractor'. The children sit the test with an adult they know well and may take a rest break if needed. The children are encouraged to sound out each word, and then blend the sounds together to read the word. The test will last no longer than a few minutes.

If you would like further information about the check, Ruth Miskin Training have released the following guidance for parents video: <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/parent-tutorial-phonics-screening-check/>

If you have any further questions regarding the phonics screening check, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Cassey Williams

Assistant Headteacher