

Primrose Hill Primary School

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Friday 27th May 2016

Dear Y1 Parents & Carers,

National Phonics Screening Check for Y1 Children

Further to the workshop we ran in the Spring Term, this is to let you know Y1 children in the country will undergo a **national phonics screening check in school**. This will take place in the **week of 13th – 17th June**. The check is a short assessment of individual children's phonic skills.

Children will complete the screening individually with their class teacher in a **quiet and informal setting** and will be asked to **read 40 words aloud** – both **real and nonsense words known as 'alien names'**. We use nonsense words quite a bit in our literacy teaching because children cannot read them by using their memory or vocabulary. Words such as 'vap' or 'jound' are new to all children so they have to use their decoding and blending skills to read them. This has proved a fair way to assess their ability to decode new, unfamiliar words.

There is **no time limit** for the check so the children can take as much or little time as they need. If your child is struggling, we will stop the check. As with all assessments we undertake at Primrose Hill Primary School, this will be **very relaxed and will not be stressful to your child** in any way. We hope they will see it as a fun quiz!

We will inform you later **next term of your child's result**. We will be **providing support for any children who did not read the required number of words**. These children will get another opportunity to do the Phonics Screening Check in Year 2.

Please do not worry about the Phonics Check, but if you have any questions, please see Robin, Kate or Jill.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robin Warren".

Robin Warren
Head Teacher

Head Teacher: Robin Warren