

# **Otterburn Primary School**

## **A Parent Guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics.**

At Otterburn Primary School, we use the Read Write Inc. (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy.

Read Write Inc. Phonics is a method of teaching reading and writing, which is centred around learning the sounds of the letters (phonics) and then blending them together to read words. The children also learn to break down words into individual sounds in order to write them. We start teaching this scheme when children arrive into the Early Years Foundation Stage. Each day the children will learn a new single sound, which then progresses to 2-letter sounds and vowel sounds.

### **When using RWI to read and write the children will:**

- Learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into understanding what they read.
- Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts.
- Learn to read words using Fred Talk- see blending information.
- Learn to read words by blending the sounds together.
- Read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out.
- Show that they understand the stories by answering 'Find It' and 'Prove it' discussion questions.
- Learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds (graphemes).
- Learn to write words by saying the sounds in Fred Talk.
- Learn to write simple and then increasingly complex sentences.
- Compose a range of texts using discussion prompts through our English lessons.
- Compose stories, Non Fiction and Poetry through our English lessons.
- Write simple sentences.

### **Blending**

Children learn to read words by blending the letter sounds that are in the Speed Sound sets. Help your child learn to read words by sound-blending e.g. c-a-t = cat.

Help children to say the pure sounds\*, as quickly as they can and then to blend the sounds together to say the whole word.

The teachers will introduce your child to a toy frog called Fred once he or she is ready to start reading words.



Fred can only say the sounds in a word and needs your child to help him read the word. Fred will say the sounds and children will work out the word. For example, Fred will say the sounds c-a-t, and children will say the word cat. This is Fred Talk: sounding out the word.

Fred can only sound out the words in the English language that are spelt phonetically- these are called **Green words**. Words not spelt in this way are called **Red words**. These include words such as 'the'. These cannot be sounded out but must just be recognised by sight.

## Speed Sounds

**Read Write Now** Desktop Speed Sounds Chart

**Speed Sounds Set 1**

|   |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| m | a  | s  | d  | t  |
| i | n  | p  | g  | o  |
| c | k  | u  | b  | f  |
| e | l  | h  | sh | r  |
| j | v  | y  | w  | th |
| z | ch | qu | x  | ng |

**Speed Sounds Set 2**

|    |    |     |     |    |
|----|----|-----|-----|----|
| ay | ee | igh | ow  | oo |
| oo | ar | or  | air | ir |
| ou | oy |     |     |    |

**Speed Sounds Set 3**

|     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ea  | oi  |     |     |     |
| a-e | i-e | o-e | u-e | aw  |
| are | ur  | er  | ow  | ai  |
| oa  | ew  | ire | ear | ure |

## Pure Sounds

How you pronounce a single sound can alter the way a whole word might sound when reading. For this reason it is important to encourage children to say the pure sound.

If you want to learn more, please visit the link below.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/find-a-book/read-write-inc-phonics--1/phonics-puresounds-video>

## **Reading at home**

Reading at home is so important. It gives you a chance to have a shared focus, discuss the story and make predictions. We can also see accelerated progress in children's English levels, when they regularly read at home. Little and often is the key!

School will send home reading books that match the child's phonic level. This is important as the purpose of this book is to consolidate the phonics your child is learning in school at the time. This will encourage confidence and fluency in your child. You will have a school diary to record any home reading in. In addition to this, we recommend you visiting the following websites for further online books, reading games and phonics support; Oxford Owl.

## **Phonics Assessments in School**

Children complete a phonics assessment at key points during the year with their teachers. This gives us an opportunity to spot any learning gaps and to measure progress. In addition to this, children in Year 1 complete a Phonics Screening Check. This involves decoding a range of real and nonsense words, to demonstrate their phonics ability.