



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS C. E. (FOUNDATION) PRIMARY AND PRE-SCHOOL

Respect. Resilience. Responsibility. Confidence. Co-operation. Compassion.

30 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Phonics Information Evening – Tuesday 11th October at 6pm

Parents and Carers of Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are invited to a Phonics Information Evening in school with your child's teacher. This session will cover the following key areas:

Why learning to read is so important

- How reading is essential for all subject areas and improves life chances.
- How positive attitudes to reading and choosing to read have academic, social and emotional benefits for children.

How children learn to read

- What phonics is and why phonics is the only route to decoding.
- How to say the phonic sounds.
- How to blend phonic sounds to read words.
- How to increase their child's fluency in reading sounds, words and books.

Reading fully decodable books

- Why children must read books consistent with their phonic knowledge.
- Why it is essential not to use other strategies to work out words (including guessing words, deducing meaning from pictures, grammar, context clues or whole word recognition).
- Why books must be fully decodable.
- Why children need to read books in a progressive sequence until they can decode unfamiliar words confidently. Parents' and carers' roles in home reading
- The positive impact parents/carers can have on their child's reading.
- The importance of reading practice to develop fluency.
- How children take home books they have read at school to re-read at home to build fluency.
- The difference between books for reading practice and books to share for pleasure.
- The importance of reading to their child to encourage a love of books, along with developing vocabulary and discussion.

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- Top tips on how to read stories well – use of voices, expression, discussing unfamiliar vocabulary, how to talk about the pictures, predicting what might happen next.
- How to complete the home reading diary.

The meeting will also provide an opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher about any specific queries you have regarding your child's reading journey as well as time look at resources used in school to support this.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Shand

English Lead