When will the screening take place?

The screening will take place throughout the week beginning Monday 11th June. The children cannot retake the test at any other time so it is very important that your child is in school during this week.

The check has been designed so that children of all abilities are able to take part.

Who will complete the check?

The children will complete the check one at a time, in a quiet area of the school. It will take anything from five to fifteen minutes to complete.

And the results?

The children will be scored against a national standard. The threshold for this has yet to be determined for this year by the DfE.

Schools are not informed of the pass mark prior to the children taking the screening check. We will be told after all schools have submitted their scores. We will inform you of whether or not your child has reached this standard in a letter later this term.

If your child’s score falls below the national threshold, they will re-take the screening check during the summer term when they are in Year 2.

How you can help

Please encourage your child to ‘sound out’ when reading or writing with you at home. Help them to focus particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns, eg:

- **Digraph:** two letters making one sound  
  - cow
- **Trigraph:** three letters making one sound  
  - night
- **Split digraph:** two vowels with a consonant in between  
  (this used to be known as the ‘magic e’)  
  - spine

Children can practise their phonics by playing games online. Our Year 1 class particularly enjoy the game, ‘Buried Treasure’: [http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html)

Please remember that using phonics is not the only skill needed to become a fluent reader. Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to:

- sound out
- re-read a word to check that it makes sense
- use the pictures for clues
- ask questions about the book and discuss what they have read

Most importantly, **enjoy reading** together!

If you have any further questions regarding the phonics screening check arrangements, please speak to Mrs Wadey.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Stokes
Head Teacher