

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year at Madley Primary School we have introduced a new Phonics scheme called *Phonics Shed*, and in Class 1 we have started our learning at Chapter 4a. You may have already heard your children coming home talking about the different characters, sounds and actions, as well as 'Joe' our *Phonics Shed* puppet. We have started sending home Chapter 2 reading books to help consolidate the learning that happened in Class R, and as a next step the children will be given Chapter 3 reading books before moving onto Chapter 4a. This is to consolidate previous learning, and ensure they have a positive journey to becoming confident readers both at home and school, and we welcome your support to help the children in this process. Please work with your child to read for 10-15 minutes every day.

Pronunciation Guide

Below is a pronunciation guide for each sound from Chapter 2 to help you at home should you need it. This is the order in which the sounds and words are taught.

Please note that *Phonics Shed* aims to reduce the 'schwa' at the end of each sound. This is the "uh" sound. Some sounds are 'stretchy' and others are 'bouncy'. The stretchy sounds are easiest to say 'purely' and the 'bouncy' sounds sometimes cannot help but have a small 'schwa' at the end, which we should encourage to reduce as much as possible.

Grapheme 'How it is written'	Phoneme 'How it is said'	Pronunciation Support	Character
s	ssss	stretchy	Sam the snake
a	ah ah ah ah	bouncy	Anna the ant
t	t t t t		Tom the tiger
p	p p p p		Pat the pig
i	i i i i		Indy the imp
n	nnnn	stretchy	Noah the nurse
m	mmmm		Monty the monkey
d	duh duh duh duh	bouncy	Dusty the dog
g	guh guh guh guh		Grey the goat
o	o o o o		Olly the Otter
c	c c c c	bouncy (these all make exactly the same sound)	Curly the cat
k	k k k k		Kit the kangaroo
ck	c c c c		Buck the duck
e	eh eh eh eh	bouncy	Ellis the echidna
u	uh uh uh uh		Ugby the bug
r	rrrr	stretchy	Rex the rat
h	h h h h	bouncy	Haz the hen
b	Buh buh buh buh		Bumble the bee
f	ffff	stretchy	Flick the fly

l	llll		Lily the ladybird
j	juh juh juh juh	bouncy	Jack the jungle explorer
v	vvvv	stretchy	Val the vet
w	www		Wes the weasel
x	cks cks cks cks	bouncy	Alex the fox
y	yyyyy	stretchy	Yan the yoga teacher
z	zzzz		Eliza the zebra
qu	qu qu qu qu	bouncy	Quinn the quail
's' voiced	zzzz	stretchy (as in 'bags' frogs' 'beds')	Additional sound for Sam the snake
'a' (ar)	arrrr	stretchy (as in Llama)	Alana the Llama
ff	fffff	stretchy	Muffin the puffin
ll	lllll		Billy the bull
ss	sssss		Jess the grasshopper
zz	zzzzz		Fizz the buzzard
tt	ttttt		Lottie the bottle
pp	ppppp		Pepper the hippo
rr	rrrrr		Barry the parrot
mm	mmmmm		Jimmy the hammer
cc	ccccc		Rebecca the broccoli
nn	nnnnn		Bonny the bunny
dd	ddddd		Eddy the ladder
gg	ggggg		Peggy the egg
bb	bbbbb		Robby the gibbon

We will share a similar pronunciation guide for Chapter 3 and 4a sounds in due course.

High Frequency Words

The children are also learning to read 'High Frequency Words' using previously taught, familiar, letter sounds. These need to be read at speed. Please note that some words can be sounded out and blended, but some of them are non-decodable, which means children will need to be told the 'tricky' part of the word that doesn't sound out 'typically'.

Home Learning

Your child should now have received a login to the *Phonics Shed* website. You can find their usernames and passwords inside the front cover of their reading diaries. As of next week, the children will be set phonics home learning via Phonics Shed. It is important that the children have a go at doing these weekly at home to support the learning we do in school. Phonics Shed is linked with Spelling Shed and the app for this can be downloaded, if you wish to, for use on tablets and mobile phones.

Please keep coming back to our Class Page on the school website for further updates and information to support your child's Phonics learning at home.

Best wishes,
Miss Thomas