

What is phonics?

Parent Workshop

“The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

Dr. Seuss



What is phonics?

Phonics is a method of teaching children that words are made up of lots of sounds.

E.G. Cat is made up of /c/ /a/ /t/.

It teaches the children the sound each letter makes and how to blend them together to read words and how to segment them (pull them apart) to write them.



Some key terms...

- Grapheme
- Phoneme
- Segmenting
- Blending
- Digraph/trigraph
- Sound buttons
- Tricky Words, e.g. said



Little Wandle Letters and Sounds

Why Little Wandle?

- Excellent training for all staff to ensure consistency
- Every aspect of phonics and reading included in a detailed, thorough and systematic approach
- Engaging resources without distracting from the learning
- Comprehensive system for identifying and supporting children requiring extra help and useful support for parents



How we teach phonics

- Daily whole class sessions
- Daily individual and group intervention for those who need extra support
- Repeated practice
- Specific order of teaching
- Reading practise sessions



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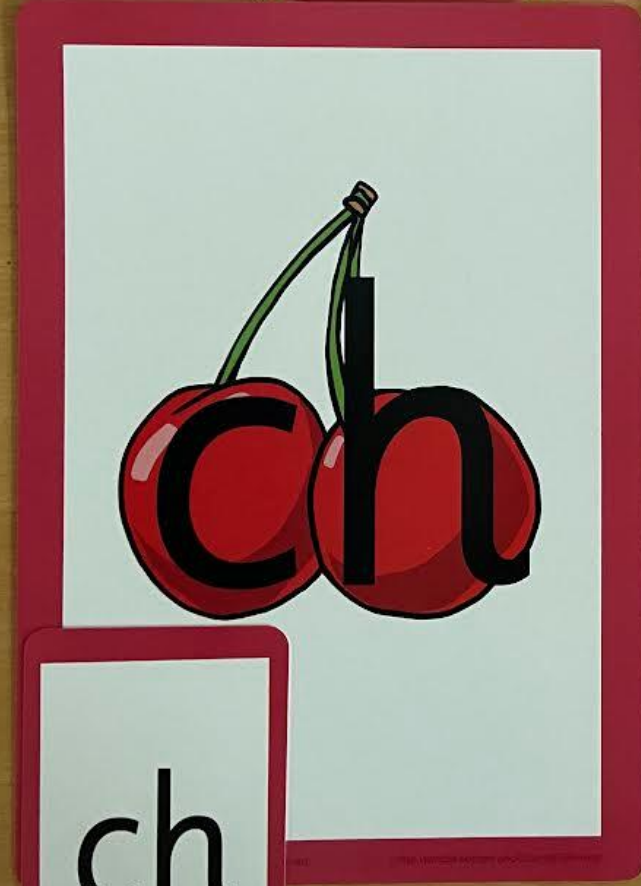
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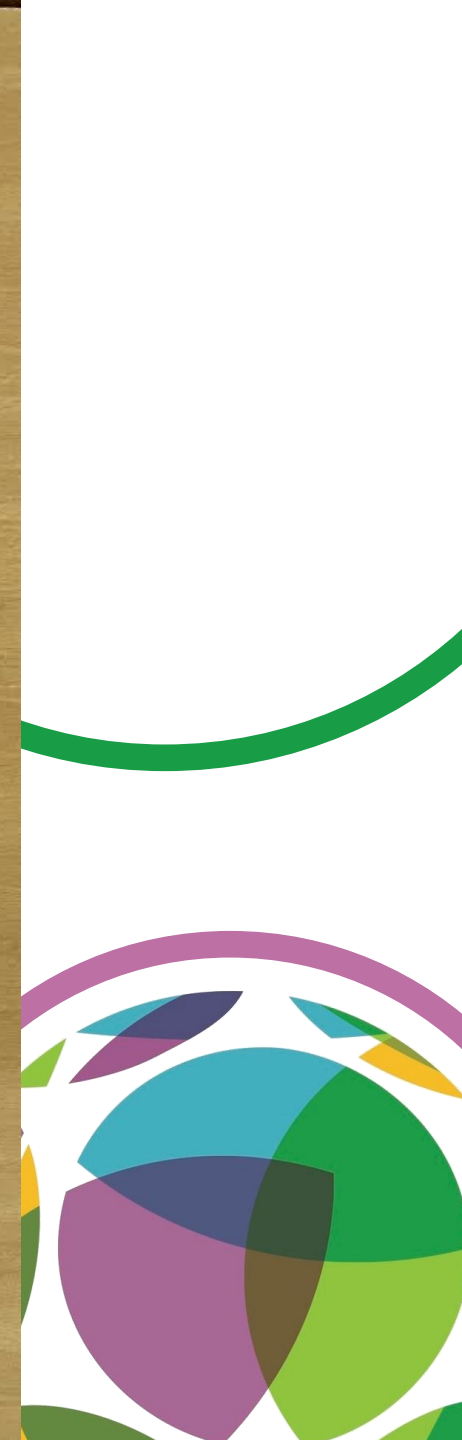
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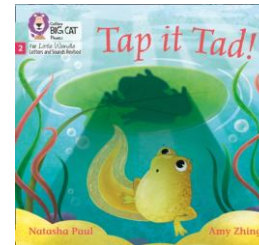
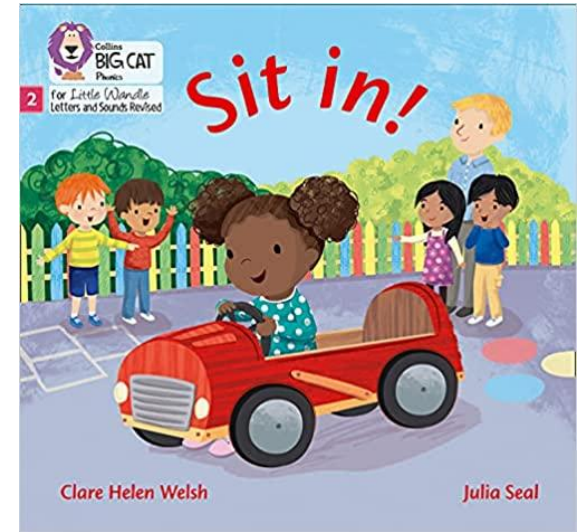
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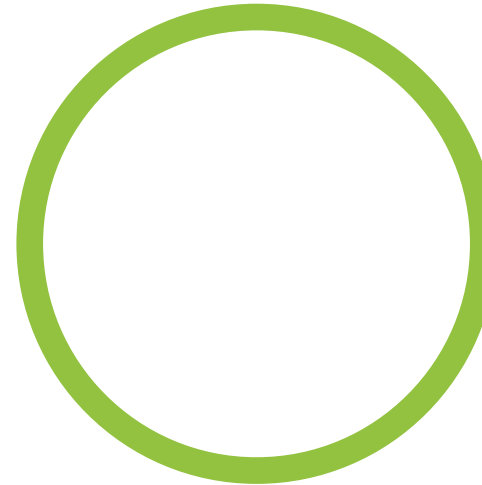
Reading books

- Once children have a secure knowledge of a number of GPC's (Grapheme Phoneme Correspondences) and are confidently blending, they will be ready for reading books
- Prior to this they may have wordless books which develop great language skills and teach children the layout of books and how to handle books



How we teach reading

- Matched to the children's secure phonic knowledge
- Children should be 95% fluent in the books they are reading
- Read two times in school and sent home
- Teachers will let you know what day the book is changed
- Please do not worry that a book is too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading
- Please make sure books are in book bags so that we can reallocate books as required
- Please look after the books
- Read at home 4x a week and sign each time



Reading practice sessions

- Timetabled 3 times a week
- Taught by trained teachers or teaching assistants
- Taught in small groups matched to children reading the same book phase and set
- Each session begins with some quick sounds and word practise
- Session 1 decoding
- Session 2 prosody (expression)
- Session 3 comprehension



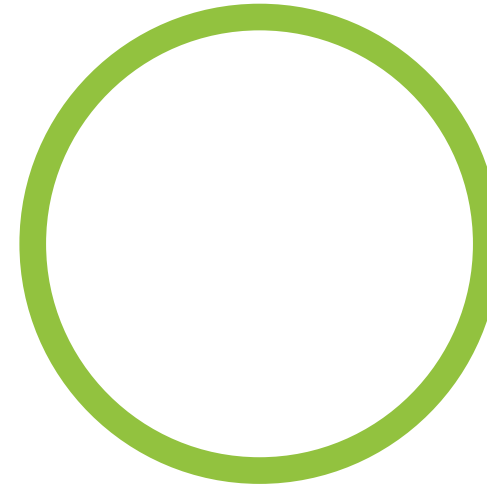
Reading rewards

- Reading records checked weekly
- Children who have read 4x or more get given a golden ticket
- Pulled out during assembly on Monday
- Winner gets a book prize



Library books

- Children will also bring home a 'sharing book' from our class library each week
- To become lifelong readers, it is essential that they read for pleasure
- Children may not be able to read this book independently but these books offer a wealth of opportunities for talking about the pictures and enjoying the story or information text.
- Enjoy the book together and foster a love of reading



By the end of their Reception year

Comprehension

- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary;
- Anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories;
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.

Word Reading

- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs;
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending;
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Writing

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed;
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters;
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.



How you can help at home

- Practise writing their graphemes
- Revisit and review sounds sent home.
- Individual reading books
- Reading bed time stories
- Busythings.com
- Please keep us up to date on Tapestry
- Little Wandle website
<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>
- But most of all...



Encourage a love for reading!

“I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage.”

-Roald Dahl

