



Together, we learn and grow



## Statutory End of Year Assessments

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Shepherdswell we assess children's progress continually and in many ways. Teachers gather assessment evidence throughout the year to build a picture of your child's learning and progress. All this information enables teachers to make a judgement on how well each child is achieving against the expectations for the National Phonics Screening Check in Year 1 and the end of Key Stage One expectations as described in the National Curriculum for Year 2.

During the summer term our children will be taking part in the following formal assessments.

### National Phonics Screening Check

In June all the children in Year 1 and any children in Year 2 who did not pass last summer will take the National Phonics Check. This is conducted on a one-to-one basis with Mrs Williams or Mrs Ryan and is something the children are familiar with. The check is carefully designed not to be stressful for your child.

The children are asked to read 40 words aloud and it takes around 10 minutes. The check consists of 20 real words and 20 nonsense words, the nonsense words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This not only makes the check a bit more fun but provides the children with a context for the nonsense word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. The children come across these alien style words during their phonics lessons.

We will inform you on your child's progress at the end of the summer term.

Children who have not met the national standard will retake the check when they are in Year 2. All children are individuals, and all develop at different rates. The screening check ensures that teachers understand which children need extra support and intervention with phonic decoding.

How you can help at home:

- Let your child see you enjoying reading yourself - they are influenced by you
- Immerse your child in a love of reading: share books and magazines with your child, take them to the library to choose books, read to and with them regularly, point out texts around you, e.g., in the street etc.
- Make time for your child to read their phonic and read with me books to you regularly - encourage them by pointing to the words and ask them about the story they are reading, to help them understand what they have read
- Use phonics play [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk). This is a website which is packed with interactive phonics games to help children to learn to hear sounds and blend sounds. We use this in school and some aspects of it are free to use at home.

### Key Stage 1 SATs - Year 2

Head Teacher: Mrs Ryan  
Billingwell Place, Springfield, Milton Keynes, MK6 3NP  
Telephone: 01908 665418

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At the end of Key Stage children will undertake some formal assessments in Maths and Reading, which are known as SATs (Standard Attainment Tests) and take place during the month of May.

The children are not aware that they are doing these assessments as it is kept very low key and will be completed in small groups. Teachers use these tasks to help inform their judgements as to whether each child have reached the expected standard at the end of Year 2. (KSI).

The Reading Test consists of two separate papers:

- Paper 1 - consists of a combined reading prompt and answer booklet. The test takes approximately 30 minutes to complete but is not strictly timed.
- Paper 2 - consists of an answer booklet and a separate reading booklet. The test takes approximately 40 minutes to complete but is not strictly timed.
- The texts will cover a range of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction.

The Maths Test consists of two separate papers:

- Paper 1: Arithmetic - lasts approximately 20 minutes (but this is not strictly timed). It covers calculation methods for all operations.
- Paper 2: Reasoning - lasts for approximately 35 minutes. Pupils will still require calculation skills and questions will be varied including multiple choice, matching, true/false, completing a chart or table or drawing a shape. Some questions will also require children to show or explain their working out.

We will inform you on your child's end of Key Stage levels at the end of the summer term.

How you can help at home:

- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards - discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings, and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- All reading is valuable - it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
- Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards.
- Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, draughts or chess.
- Completing the homework activities set each half term.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and if you have any further questions, please talk to your child's class teacher during Wednesday's parent's meetings.

We look forward to seeing you then

Kind regards

Mrs Williams Assistant Headteacher and KSI Leader

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