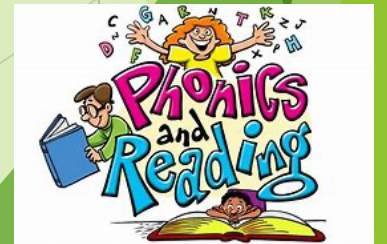


The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The central area is white, providing a clean space for the text.

Phonics in Nursery

Why do we teach Phonics?

- ▶ The ability to read and write is an essential skill for all children.
- ▶ Phonics provides the children with good reading and spelling skills and is used in day to day life.
- ▶ As a school we use a synthetic scheme called 'Letters and Sounds'.
- ▶ We teach phonics twice daily for 15 minutes through from Nursery till year 1.



What does Phonics look like at St Mary Magdalene?

- ▶ We complete phonic sessions twice daily. These sessions usually last around 15 minutes.
- ▶ In this time, we usually recap over sounds, teach new sounds, practise using whiteboards, air writing, magic wands and apply using our blending and segmenting skills to read short CVC words.
- ▶ We play a variety of games and sing a range of songs during our phonic sessions to make it as interactive as possible.

Phase 1- Nursery and throughout school.

- ▶ In Nursery we teach Phase one of phonics. There are five phases overall which the children will progress through as they go through the school.
- ▶ Phase 1 is taught through speaking and listening activities.

It is split into 7 aspects:

- General sound discrimination- environment sounds.
- General sound discriminations- Instrumental sounds
- General sound discrimination- Body percussion
- Rhythm and rhyme
- Alliteration (e.g. six sizzling sausages)
- Voice sounds
- Oral blending (to help us read) and segmenting (to help us write)

Activities for Phase one phonics

- ▶ Hide the instrument- Play some instruments and then hide one and play it. Can your child recognise the sound without seeing the instrument.
- ▶ Copy my rhythm- Play a two or three beat with your hands or sticks and see if your child can copy the beat.
- ▶ I spy using blending e.g. 'Can you find the 'p e n'?
- ▶ Simon says... touch you h-ea-d
- ▶ Listening walks e.g. around the park/house/school. What sounds can you hear?

Phase 2- End of Nursery/Reception

- ▶ This phase introduces the sounds. This phase builds on the skills learnt in phase 1 blending and segmenting to read simple words.
- ▶ Sounds are introduced in sets:
 - Set 1: s a t p
 - Set 2: i n m d
 - Set 3: g o c k
 - Set 4: ck e u r
 - Set 5: h b f ff l ll ss
- ▶ Learning to read some tricky words: **the to I no go into**

Articulation of sounds

- ▶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksblMiliA8>

It's really important to pronounce the sounds properly. These YouTube videos show how to pronounce some of the sounds.

Activities for Phase 2

- ▶ Splat- Splat with your hand to find a sound or word.
- ▶ Initial sound sorter- Can they match the pictures to the sound e.g. a pig will go into the 'p' pile.
- ▶ Alien words- Look at real words and made up words. Can the children understand and read them?
- ▶ Mike the Robot- only likes to eat food which is broken down e.g. cat- c a t.

How can you help at home?

- ▶ Read together regularly.
- ▶ Play with magnetic letters to make words.
- ▶ Listen and sing Nursery Rhythms together.
- ▶ Play I-spy
- ▶ Go on walks and talk about the sounds you hear

Some websites

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

www.teachyourmonstertoread.com

Apps

Hairy phonics

Hairy letters

Remember...

- ▶ Phonics is not the only important thing in becoming a fluent reader...
- ▶ Listen to your child, speak with them and play alongside them! Speaking and listening are the building blocks for reading and writing. The more language your child is exposed to, the more they will understand and use for themselves!
 - ▶ And most of all... Enjoy reading together!

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
learn,
the MORE places you'll go.

