



**Swaffham Prior Church of England
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'Learning, working and growing together'

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Dear Parents/Carers

At Swaffham Prior we use Story Time Phonics to teach our youngest learners to read and write. This is a systematic, multisensory synthetic phonics programme.

In Reception the children will learn a new sound (phoneme) each day. Your child will learn an action and phrase for each letter sound, these will be sent home when children learn a new sound in a booklet called 'Today's phoneme is..' Check your child knows these – they're fun to learn and will be linked to a storybook too. These are to be kept at home so that you can revisit and practise the sounds in your own time.

Here is the order of sounds that your child will learn in Reception. We teach four sounds per week:

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	Set 6: ss, j, v, w
Set 7: x, y, z, qu	Set 8: ch, sh, th, ng	Set 9: ee, ai, igh, oa
Set 10: oo (long) oo (short), ar, or	Set 11: ur, ow, oi, ear	Set 12: air, ure, er

Once the children are confident saying and reading the majority of these sounds, we systematically teach the Year 1 children all the most common alternative ways of pronouncing and spelling sounds, continuing to relate them to 'real books'. This develops the children's language and vocabulary and also excites and engages children so they read for pleasure.

If you have any questions about the teaching of phonics please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

Helen Cranness (EYFS Lead) and Donia Mercer (English Lead)