



5 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wanted to advise you all about the teaching of Phonics at St Peter's Primary School. We are currently teaching initial reading using Ruth Miskin's Read Write Inc. Phonics programme. This is a dynamic, vigorous programme that teaches children to read and write quickly and easily. First, children learn the common sounds in the English language and how to sound-blend words for reading. At the same time, they develop handwriting and spelling. They progress to read and comprehend lively storybooks containing words **that they can decode** so they achieve early success in reading.

- Phonics teaching will be linked to the reading books sent home.
- Children will be grouped by phonic ability allowing lessons to specifically address individual learning needs. Each child has been assessed and will start at the correct place on the programme.

The daily phonics sessions will include information on what phonics is, the systematic approach used in RWI and ways to help your children learn to read at home.

The books being sent home each week will be:

- A book of the child's choice from the book outside your child's classroom. These are books for you to enjoy with your child, discuss the pictures, ask questions etc. You will need to read them or help them read them. These books are to foster your child's love of reading.
- When phonically ready, a RWI story book. The children will have read this book in school a few times already. They will know how to read it. It is an opportunity for them to show off to you! Please praise them. The books also have activities that you can do with them; including questions to ask and speed word games.

Please take the time to watch the following video about the RWI phonics scheme (Scan QR code on next page or click on the link below). It will help you to understand the concept as well as the sounds the children will be learning.

<https://www.j2e.com/st-peters-primary-school/jkeating/Parents%20Phonics%20RWI%20video.mp4>



This video was recorded last year by Mrs McLagan who was the Phonics leader at St Peter's at the time.

I am now the phonics lead and if you have any questions regarding the scheme I will be happy to answer them.

This video is useful to help you understand how to pronounce the 44 phonemes used in English:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jennifer Scott