



22nd January 2026

Dear Parents

At St Peter's Primary School, we use Ruth Miskin's Read Write Inc. Phonics programme to teach early reading.

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. Each half term, we assess how each child is getting on with their phonics learning in order to ensure that they are grouped in the most supportive way possible. This ensures that they are able to succeed, whilst being challenged at the appropriate level. Some children are assessed more than once a half term, depending on their group and progress.

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 RWI story book (when your child is phonically ready). 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.
- 'Book Bag Book' which is at the appropriate level for them and linked to the story we are reading in class that week.
- We also send home 'books of choice' which are not linked directly to their reading level. These are books that they have chosen for pure enjoyment, after book discussions and recommendations from friends and adults in the class. These can either be read by your child, their adult or a mixture of both. These are perfect for modelling expression and discussing the text using the VIPERS questions V = Vocabulary, I = Infer, P = Predict, E = Explain = R = Retrieve, S = Sequence / Summarise.

Caroline Barriball, Headteacher

Phonics groups and what they mean

Group	If I am in this group I can...	My next steps are to...
Set 1A	Recognise some single letter sounds	Recognise all single letter sounds.
Set 1B	Recognise 14 or more single letter sounds	Orally blend Set 1 sounds
Set 1C	Recognise most or all single letter sounds	Blend sounds to read short 2 or 3 sound words e.g. am, red, in, yes, bin
Blends	Read all single letter sounds speedily	Recognise the Set 1 digraphs ("Special Friends") and read them in words th sh ch qu ng nk ff ll ss ck
Red books	Read 2 or 3 sound words independently [am, red, in, yes, bin]	Read words with 4 and 5 single letter sounds stop jump stamp crept Read words with 3 sounds speedily man got sit
Purple books	Read words with 4 and 5 Set 1 single letter and special friends sounds speedily with that them have	Read the first 6 Set 2 sounds and in words, including multi-syllabic ay ee igh ow oo oo Read words with 4 and 5 sounds speedily stop jump stamp crept
Pink books	Read the first 6 Set 2 sounds speedily ay ee igh ow oo oo Read words with 4 and 5 Set 1 sounds speedily	Read the next 6 Set 2 sounds and in words, including multi-syllabic or or air ir ou oy

	Black, thing, went, help	Read word with the first 6 Set 2 sounds speedily gray night sleep about
	Orange books	Read the next 6 Set 2 sounds speedily or or air ir ou oy Read words with the first 6 Set 2 sounds speedily play throw smell feel
	Yellow books	Read the first 6 Set 3 sounds and in words, including multi-syllabic ea oa ie oe ue Read words with Set 1 and the first 6 Set 2 sounds speedily quick little night know small
	Blue books	Read the remaining Set 3 sounds aw ee ear ure ou e-e ue ie Can read whole texts of 60-70+ words per minute gh wh kn flous fun clous
	Grey books	Build speed and fluency (60-70+ wpm) Continue reading Set 3 / Set 3 additional sounds and in words, including multi-syllabic with speed aw ee ear ure ou e-e ue ie Build speed and fluency (90-100+ wpm)

You can also access eBooks that match your child's group on oxford owl.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/login?active-tab=students>

Username: st peters

Password: 2024

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to ask.

A parent meeting introduction to Read Write Inc. presentation can be accessed via this [link](#).

This video is useful to help you understand how to pronounce the 44 phonemes used in English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yln6PpV1G1>

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Jennifer Scott
(Phonics Leader)

Caroline Barriball, Headteacher