



Ilfracombe Infant & Nursery School
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Date: 7th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception, 'Under the Sea' Topic

This week, the children have enjoyed creating beautiful under the sea pictures using oil pastels and brusho, sculpted fish from clay, completed a pirates training course and had a fun pool party.



Year One Visit to Tunnels Beaches, Ilfracombe

Please can you ensure that your child has suitable clothing and footwear. The children will leave and return during the school day and a packed lunch will be provided.

Monday 10th June - Lions and Elephants

Swimming Timetable Change - Lions

For next week only, Lions class will swim on Tuesday instead of Monday.

Sun Protection

During the sunny weather please ensure your child's shoulders are covered and if possible could they please bring a sun hat to school for playtimes. We do have sun cream in each classroom for use during the school day.

P.E.

Please can you ensure that your child has suitable footwear for P.E. as we will doing a lot of activities outside in the playground. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Claire Grant

Executive Headteacher




ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Exciting things are happening in Devon to improve support for families with children. Children Centres in Devon are going to become Family Hubs, providing a flexible, network of services for families with children aged 0-19 (25 with SEND). Family Hub workers would like to seek your views and comments on how support is delivered in your local area. You can share your views with Family hub workers who will be attending Ilfracombe Infant school the week commencing 10th June during morning and afternoon pick up times. We'll all be wearing red Action For Children lanyards (along with our visitor lanyard) so you'll know how to spot us!

Diary Dates

Monday 10 th June	Year One Visit to Tunnels Beach Turtles, Ilfracombe Library Visit
Monday 10 th June to Friday 14 th June	Year One Phonics Screening Checks
Monday 1 st July	Elephants and Woodpeckers, Ilfracombe Library Visit
Tuesday 2 nd July	Library Summer Reading Challenge Assembly
Tuesday 9 th July	Reception, Year One and Year Two, Essex Dance at the Landmark Theatre Year One Sports Day at 1.45pm (Reserve date Tuesday 16 th July at 1.45pm)
Wednesday 10 th July	Year Two Sports Day at 1.45pm (Reserve date Monday 15 th July at 1.45pm)
Thursday 11 th July	Reception Sports Day at 1.45pm (Reserve date Monday 15 th July at 9.15pm)
Wednesday 17 th July	Year Two Leavers Assemblies Kingfishers at 9.15am Woodpeckers at 10.45am Swans at 2.15pm
Friday 19 th July	Last day of Term

A group of young children, including a girl in a red dress and a boy with glasses, are sitting on the floor and looking at a book together. The background is a light-colored wall.

Information for parents:

Phonics screening check 2024



Standards
& Testing
Agency

Phonics screening check

Do you have a child in year 1 at primary school?

If so, your child will take part in the phonics screening check in June.

The phonics screening check is a check of your child's phonics knowledge. It helps your school confirm whether your child is making the progress expected in the national curriculum.

With some exceptions, all pupils who have reached the age of 6 by the end of the school year must take the check during that academic year, including those in maintained nursery schools. For most pupils, this will be in year 1.

In 2024, the check will take place during the week commencing Monday 10 June.

What is phonics?

Phonics is an effective way of teaching children to read. By ensuring high quality phonics teaching, we want to improve literacy levels and give all children a solid base to build on as they progress through school.

Through phonics, children are taught how to:

- recognise the sounds that each individual letter makes
- identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make, such as 'sh' or 'oo'
- blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word

Children can then use this knowledge to 'decode' new words that they hear or see. This is the first important step in learning to read.

What is the phonics screening check?

The phonics screening check contains 40 words divided into two sections of 20 words. Both sections contain a mixture of real words and pseudo-words.

Pseudo-words are words that are phonically decodable but are not actual words with an associated meaning. They are included in the check specifically to assess whether your child can decode a word using their phonics skills.

All pseudo-words in the check are accompanied by a picture of an imaginary creature. Children are taught that when a word has a creature next to it, it is a pseudo-word. This ensures that they are not trying to match the pseudo-word to a word in their vocabulary.

The check is designed to give teachers information on how your child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.

Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

Phonics works best when children are given plenty of encouragement and learn to enjoy reading and books. Parents play a very important part in helping with this.

You can highlight the phonics sounds when you read with your child. Teaching how sounds match with letters is likely to start with individual letters such as 's', 'a' and 't' and will then move on to two-letter sounds such as 'ee', 'ch' and 'ck'.

With all books, encourage your child to 'sound out' unfamiliar words and then blend the sounds together from left to right rather than looking at the pictures to guess. Once your child has read an unfamiliar word, you can talk about what it means and help them to follow the story.

Your child's teacher will also be able to suggest books with the right level of phonics for your child. These books are often called 'decodable readers' because the story is written with words made up of the letters your child has learnt. Your child will be able to work out new words from their letters and sounds, rather than just guessing.

Most schools use book bags and a reading record, which is a great way for teachers and parents to communicate about what children have read. The reading record can tell you whether your child has enjoyed a particular book and shows problems or successes they have had, either at home or at school.

How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results to identify those who need additional support and make plans to help them improve.

The Department for Education does not publish school-level results for the phonics screening check, but schools will have access to **national, regional and local authority results**¹ to allow them to benchmark their pupils' performance.

Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you in the second half of the summer term.

If your child has found the check difficult, the school should tell you what support they have put in place to help your child improve. You might like to ask how you can support your child to take the next steps in reading.

Children who have not met the standard in year 1 will re-take the check in year 2. The results of any re-take will also be shared with you.

Further information

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any questions about the phonics screening check. For further details, you can also visit www.gov.uk/STA.

1. <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/key-stage-1-and-phonics-screening-check-attainment>

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Information for parents: phonics screening check

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