

How can you support at home?

- Use the Phase 3-5(a/b/c) sound mats which your child has at home, ask them to point to a grapheme and spell out words - they can pretend to 'type' the words onto their sound mat.
- Download the Teach your Monster to read app from the app store.
- Play games on the Phonics Bloom and Phonics Play websites.
- Read the books which have been sent from school as often as you can with your child. When the children are reading their books have their sound mats to hand. If they are stuck on a grapheme, you can point it out on the sound mat - seeing the image can help!
- Ask children to write for a purpose - this could be a letter, card, shopping list, or something else!
- When writing, encourage children to segment the sounds they can hear. When writing independently, we encourage children to write words in a phonetically plausible way. This means that they do not have to be spelt correctly at this point, but they can be read using the phonics knowledge they have. However, as they move through school, correct spelling will become a priority. Encourage your child to say the sentence they plan to write and count the number of words on their fingers.
- Practise letter formation using the same rhymes which we use at school, these can be found in the Phonics Handbook under the Phonics section of the school website,
- Continue to spread the joy of books and help to instill a love of reading by sharing story books daily and visiting book shops and libraries regularly. Helping children to recognise that by learning phonics they will have access to the wonderful world of books and reading is key!