



How can you support at home?

- Use the Phase 2 and 3 soundmats 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 Soundmat, to ensure that you are saying the phonemes correctly, use the documents on the school website under 'Phonics' and press the sound buttons,
- 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 - they are linked to the graphemes which the children have learnt in school recently so seeing them and reading them often will help to embed new learning. When the children are reading their books, it can be helpful to have their soundmats to hand so that if they are stuck on a grapheme, you can point it out on the soundmat - 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 using their 'robot arms'. 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. Letting them spell words using their phonics knowledge will be more beneficial to children in these early stages of writing than asking them to copy as they will not understand the relationship between the letters and sounds in lots of words at this stage, however, as they move through school, correct spelling will become a priority.
- 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!