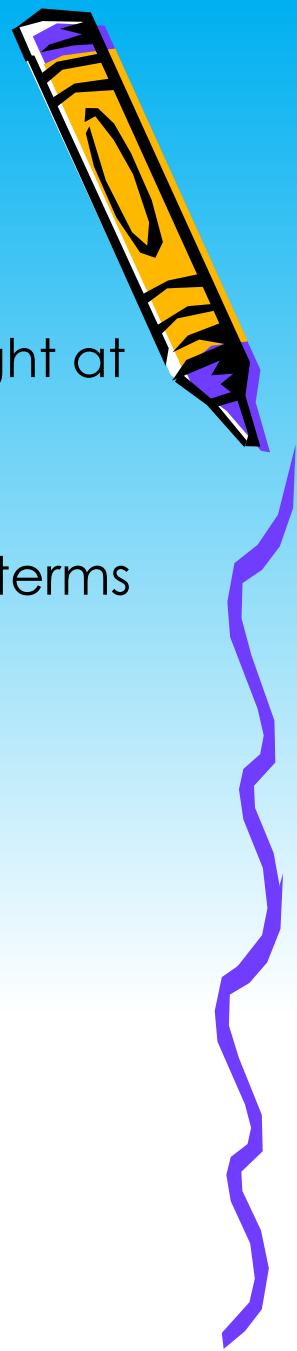


Reading, Phonics and Handwriting at St Thomas



Aims

- To share how reading, phonics and handwriting are taught at St Thomas
- To teach the basics of phonics and some useful phonics terms
- To look at handwriting and letter formation
- To explain how the Oxford Reading Tree scheme works



What is phonics and
how can I help my child
at home?



Phonics is all about using ...

skills for
reading and
spelling

+

knowledge
of the
alphabet



Phonics will help your child to become
a good reader and writer.



Daily Phonics

- Every day the children have a 20 minute sessions of phonics
- The phonics scheme is ESL Letters and Sounds
- Children learn a new sound x4 in a week and recap at the end of the week
- There are some weeks that children recap



Phonic terms your child will learn at school



- **Phonemes:** The smallest units of sound that are found within a word
- **Grapheme:** The spelling of the sound e.g. a, b, sh, ch
- **Diagraph:** Two letters that make one sound when read-
ch, sh, ae, ff
- **Trigraphs:** Three letters that make one sound, igh, ear



Phonic terms your child will learn at school



- **CVC:** Stands for consonant, vowel, consonant.

Sun, box, cat, web

- **Segmenting** is breaking up a word into its sounds
- **Blending** : Putting the sounds together to read a word
- **Tricky words:** Words that cannot easily be decoded



Phase 2: Learning phonemes to read and write simple words



- Children will learn their first 19 phonemes:

Set 1: s a t p **Set 2:** i n m d

Set 3: g o c k **Set 4:** ck (as in duck) e u r

Set 5: h b l f ff (as in puff) ll (as in hill) ss (as in hiss)

- They will use these phonemes to read and spell simple “consonant-vowel-consonant” (CVC) words:

sat, tap, dig, duck, rug, puff, hill, hiss

All these words contain 3 phonemes.



Phonics Words

Your children will learn to use the term:

Segmenting

- Children need to be able to **hear** a whole word and **say** every sound that they **hear**.



Segmenting

bed = /b/ /e/ /d/

tin = /t/ /i/ /n/

mug = /m/ /u/ /g/



Phonics Words

Your children will learn to use the term:

Blending

Children need to be able to **hear** the separate sounds in a word and then blend them together to **say** the whole word .



Blending

bed

tin

mug



Phonics words

Phoneme frame and sound buttons

c	a	t
---	---	---

.

.

.

f	i	sh
---	---	----

.

.

—



Tricky Words



There are many words that children need to know. Tricky words usually cannot be sounded out or they are words that are seen often but the children haven't yet been taught the sound.

the

was

said

you

some



Meet the Robinson Family





Chip



Mum and
Dad



Wilma



Biff



Kipper



Wilf



Floppy



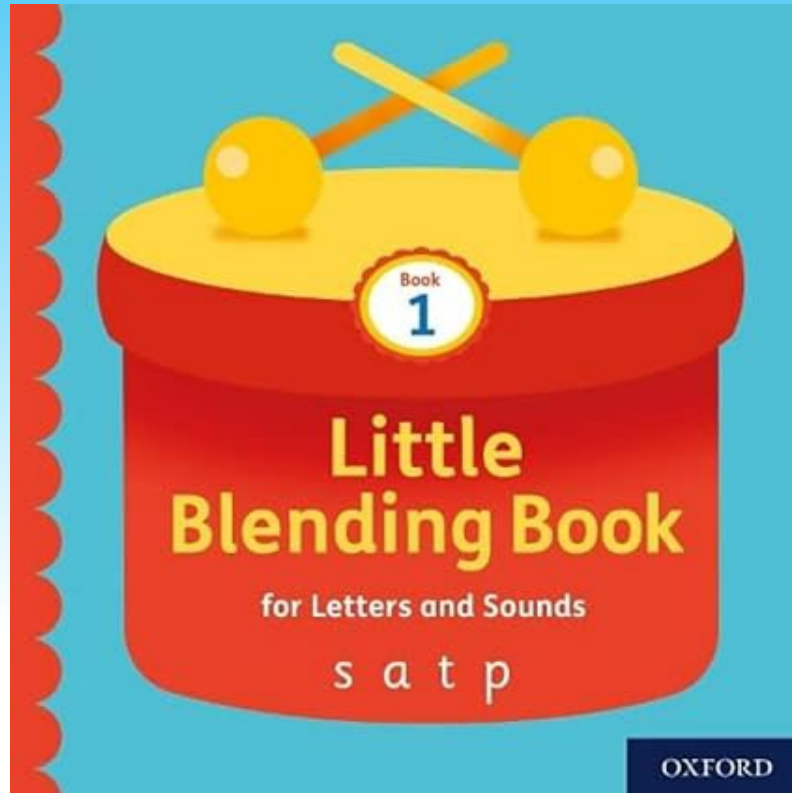


Your child's first reading book will not have any words.

This is because we need to teach the techniques of reading and to encourage young readers to use the picture cues as well as the words during the next stage



Little Blending Books



Reading Tips



- Allow your child some time to look at the front cover and the pictures inside the book
- Encourage your child to think about who is in the story, what are they doing, where are they, when did something happen, why and how might something have happened
- Track the finger, use your finger to point out the first letter in a sound and the direction that you read, as your child gets older they will be encouraged to read with their eyes



Reading/Phonics



- Yellow reading record
- It is important to look after the books
- There are 30 Little Blending books, if these get lost or damaged then the children will have less books to use in class, please look after them
- Each week you may get new sounds, tricky words and CVC words to blend
- We ask for 5 minutes each day for reading/phonics



Pencil Grip



We make a crocodile mouth



We put our pencil in the crocodile's mouth



Handwriting/Letter Formation



Handwriting and letter formation is now a high priority across the country in order to raise literacy/writing standards.

Letter formation/handwriting is recommended to be taught in Reception for 10-15 minutes per day.

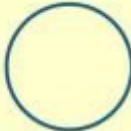
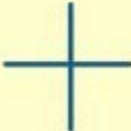
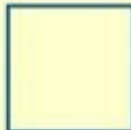
Fine motor/early mark making activities are really important especially for more reluctant writers.



Handwriting/Letter Formation

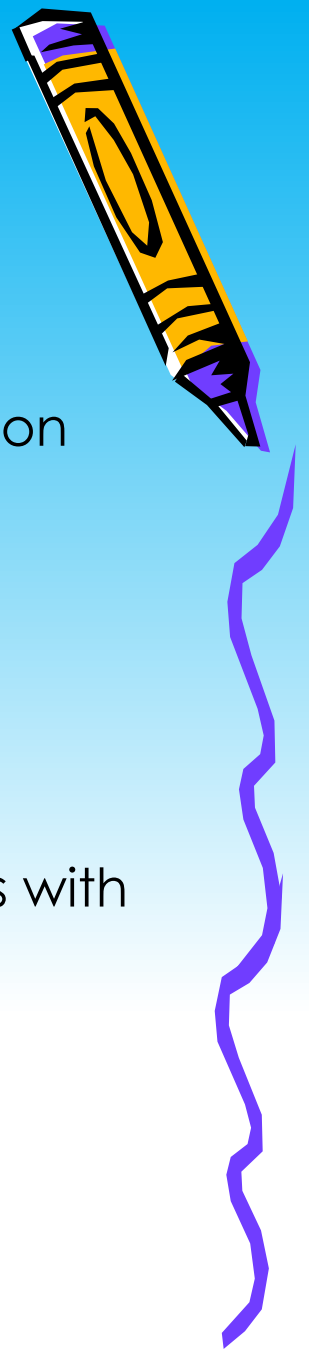


Pre-Writing Shapes

				
2 years	2 ½ years	3 years	3 ½ - 4 years	4 years 4 months
				
4 years 6 months	4 years 7 months	4 years 11 months	5 years 3 months	



Handwriting/Letter Formation



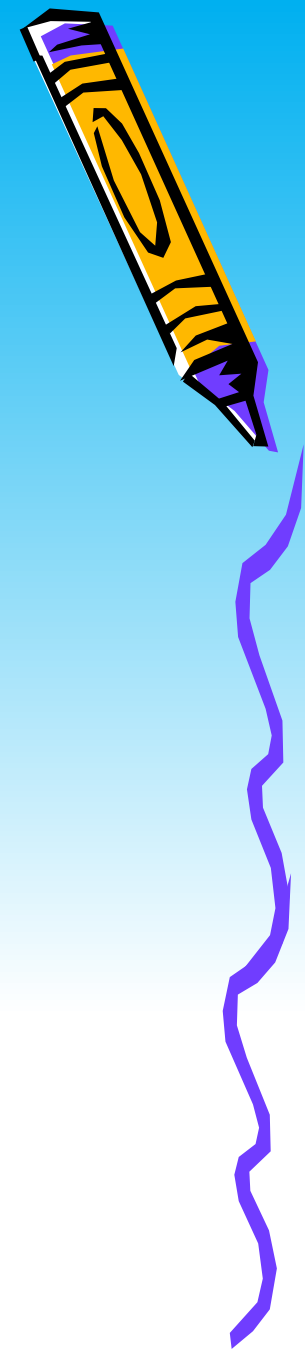
- We use the rhymes from ELS to help with letter formation

Grapheme	Picture	Rhyme
S		snake – swerve around the snake

- We also use Penpals handwriting scheme which starts with pre-writing activities and then works through letter formation by the 'letter families.'



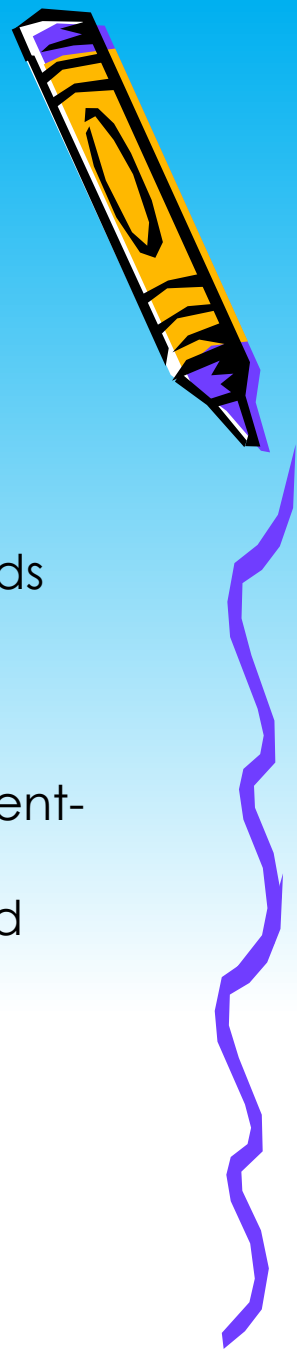
Handwriting/Letter Formation



Letter Family 1 Start at the Top	L t i j u y
Letter Family 2 No Lifting	r n m h b p
Letter Family 3 'c'	C o a d g q s f e
Letter Family 4 Fall down, Fall up	V w z x k



Is there anything I can do at home?



- Share stories together
- Read to your children and have them read to you
- Encourage children to join in with repeated phrases and words in stories
- Notice letters and sounds in the everyday environment
- Form letters
- Look out for names, logos and familiar words in the environment- Asda.
- Encourage children to tell you about the story they have read
- Draw pictures/write words about the story
- Make up your own versions of stories
- Five minutes of reading/phonics each day

