

Reception approach to phonics 2021-22

Phase 2 completed throughout Autumn term – followed Letters and Sounds program – all single phonemes plus I, the, no, go, to

Phase 3 completed throughout spring – trialled Twinkl phonics – IWB used throughout – recapped at start of summer term

Plus tricky words me, she, we, he, be, was, you, are, all, they, you, her

Phase 4 completed via Twinkl phonics in summer term plus re visiting phase 3 as well as securing letter formation

Phase 4 teaches adjacent consonant clusters at beginning and end of words

Plus polysyllabic words – as well as new range of tricky words (do, some, said, there, were, come – these are far from secure for the majority

Planning was taking 4 new phonemes a week then consolidating on a Friday.

Summer 2022

Reception teacher undertook Jolly phonics on line training (20 hours with follow on assignments)

Two KS1 teachers undertook Jolly phonics grammar online training (20 hours each with follow on assignments)

Well funding was applied for to fund increase in resources.

Support was gained from Orgill English Hub – from this point an approved phonics scheme was a necessity.

New reading books, wall charts, phonics cards, alphabets, dictionaries plus JP software for class smartboard etc were purchased.

Loyalty to the scheme was paramount.

Why Jolly Phonics?

Multi-sensory fun approach with stories, characters, songs, actions – software is very user friendly. Letter formation receives a good focus throughout the sessions.

Planning was straight forward and well-paced

Children's work books gave children ownership (special books) and are always worked at from a comfortable table and chair. Whiteboards are used during input sessions – for phoneme/grapheme and word dictations.

How scheme was put in place

It was decided that as a transition period was needed KS1 children would be introduced at Step 2 of the programme – children were assessed on entry to new class to determine starting point. Phonics is taught three times a week while grammar programme is taught twice a week

School assessment tracking system (Insight tracker) has had focus phonemes added.

Throughout the summer and autumn all previous reading materials were sorted and re grouped and linked to phonemes and tricky words – this is on-going as anomalies occur as children progress through the new bands.

Parents were informed of the change of scheme and warned of a new approach and to bear with us.

Mrs Steele then put forward a rolling programme for new grammar programme to be followed throughout school (see notes on this)

An update Summer 2023

The Reception children have completed Step 2 of the programme – there has been a daily phonics lesson during the autumn term while Step 1 was completed. Step 2 involved the children having a daily phonics lesson four times a week with a consolidation/revisit session on the Friday. It is now apparent that Step 3 will not be completed before the end of the summer term so with this in mind Mrs Steele will continue with Step 3 when the children start year 1.