ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Christ is the centre of our school community where we live, love and learn together.

Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Families,

Please see the information below which will help support you and your child in the coming weeks as we deliver the Phonics Screening Check in school.

What is the phonics screening check?
All year 1 pupils in England take the phonics screening check. It's done in school by our staff. The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5 to 10 minutes. Some words are real words and others are nonsense, or 'alien', words that help to show if pupils can work out how to decode words they haven't seen before. The check helps us to see how pupils are progressing in phonics and where to provide additional teaching and support.

The check may not be appropriate for some pupils. We'll let you know if we think this is the case for your child.

When will it be happening?
Year 1 will complete the phonics screening check in the week commencing 12th June 2023.

Do we get to know the results?
We must report the results to Birmingham City Council by Friday 21st July. We'll also let you know the results by the end of term. If your child does not meet the expected standard in the check, they'll get to have another go next year. It's normally nothing to worry about. The results don't count towards any league tables.

Do we need to prepare at home?
No – your child is being taught phonics at school and no special work at home is needed. However, you can always help your child by reading to and with them, playing sound and reading games and teaching them new words and showing them how they're written.

Contact the school:
If you have any questions or want to talk further about the phonics screening check, please contact us by using the details shared above.

Yours Faithfully,

D. Sullivan

Mrs Sullivan
Assistant Vice Principal