



16th October 2020

Dear Year 1 and Year 2 Parents,

National Phonics Screening Check

The national Phonics Screening Check is a short, statutory assessment undertaken by our Year 1 pupils in June each year. The aim of the check is to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. It also aims to identify the pupils who need extra help so that they can be given support by the school to improve their reading skills.

Our **current Year 1** pupils will undertake this assessment in **June 2021**.

The cancellation of the Phonics Screening Check in June 2020 means that the **current Year 2** pupils did not take the check in Year 1. Therefore, in the 2020/21 academic year only, it is statutory for schools to administer a past version of the Phonics Screening Check to **Year 2 pupils** during the second half of the **2020 Autumn Term**. At Bowes, we will be undertaking this at the **end of November 2020**.

Pupils who meet the expected standard in phonics during this time will not be required to complete any further statutory assessments in phonics. However, any Year 2 pupils who do not meet the expected standard during the Autumn 2020 check will be expected to take the statutory test again in June 2021, alongside our current Year 1 pupils.

We are unable to hold our usual phonics meeting for parents, but have updated our presentation with lots of information about phonics at Bowes and ways you can help at home. The presentation also includes voice overs by Ritsa Gavriel (KS1 Assistant Headteacher) on each page, so please click the speaker link. The presentation can be downloaded from the Bowes website by visiting our Parent Meetings page at

<https://www.bowesprimaryschool.org/page/?title=Parent+Meetings+-+Presentations&pid=213>.

Yours sincerely,

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Executive Headteacher

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Head of School