

John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery

Lancaster Way • Braintree • Essex • CM7 5UL

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E-mail: admin@johnbunyan.co.uk

Head teacher: Mrs Lisa Waters NPQH, M.Ed.



April, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

We would like to further inform you about the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. All Year 1 pupils in England take the phonics screening check. On the week beginning Monday 8th June the children will be given a Phonics Screening Check which will be administered in school by the Year 1 staff. The children have been preparing for this since starting school in the Reception Class and have had lots of opportunities to familiarise with the delivery of the check.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5-10 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
- 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 pupils will complete The Phonics Screening Check in the first week in June 2022 during the week beginning Monday 8th June 2026.

Do we get to know the results?

We have to report the results to Local Authority by the end of the summer term. We'll also let you know the results as part of your child's end of year report during the summer 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.

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 and supporting them with their phonics skills
- Playing sound and reading games
- 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 emailing the school office and we will be happy to support you.

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Scan this code to access the
Parent and Carer section of the
Little Wandle website for support



Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Walton

Early Reading and Phonics Lead

Our school is a place where kindness leads, resilience grows and every learner is inspired to achieve their full potential with purpose and pride.



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