



17 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Introduction to phonics (learning to read)

This week we have begun teaching the children phonics (letter sounds). The letter sounds that we have been learning are m, a, s, d and t. At Kea we follow the Read Write Inc program. The letter sounds are not taught in alphabetical order due to the development of basic blending and reading. You can find out more about how we teach the children to read and write by looking on your child's tapestry memos. You can also find more about Read Write Inc by following the link below.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide>

Your child will be coming home with a phonics book every Friday containing the letter sounds that we have been learning throughout the week. It would be very helpful if you could share this book with your child as much as possible, as this will help to embed the learning and develop firm foundations for reading and writing. Please could phonic books be returned on Wednesdays. This will allow us time to add the new sounds for the current week.

Please feel free to make learning the phonics as fun and exciting as possible. You could go on a hunt around the garden looking for hidden letter sounds. You could go around the house looking for things that begin with a particular letter sound. You could have a go at writing letters with a stick in mud or sand. It is crucial that the children are taught 'pure sounds' so that they can hear and make the connections when reading or writing words when they are ready. Please see the link below to hear the 'pure-sounds'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

If you have any questions please feel free to speak to us after school or contact the school office and we will give you a ring.

Thank you for your support.
Kind regards

Catherine Harvey & Kim Lawrence