

### Spring term Letters and Sounds

Most of the children will now know around 19 letters and be able to blend phonemes (sounds) to read VC(vowel, consonant, eg. at) words and segment VC words to spell. While many children will be able to read and spell CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant eg. cat) words, they all should be able to blend and segment CVC words orally.

The children are now learning another 25 graphemes( Letters that represent a sound), most of them comprising two letters (e.g. oa), so the children can represent each of about 42 phonemes by a grapheme. Children also continue to practise CVC blending and segmentation and will apply their knowledge of blending and segmenting to reading and spelling simple two-syllable words and captions. They will learn letter names during this phase, learn to read some more tricky words and also begin to learn to spell some of these words.

It must always be remembered that phonics is the step up to word recognition. Automatic reading of all words – decodable and tricky – is the ultimate goal.

Here are some examples of the phonemes/graphemes we will be learning.

Graphemes	Sample words	Graphemes	Sample words
ch	chip	ar	farm
sh	shop	or	for
th	thin/then	ur	hurt
ng	ring	ow	cow
ai	rain	oi	coin
ee	feet	ear	dear
igh	night	air	fair
oa	boat	ure	sure
oo	boot/look	er	corner

The tricky words that the children must learn to read and spell will be

no, go, I, the, to, he, she, we, me, be, was, my, you, they, her, all, are

Please listen to your child read every day. Encourage them to sound out (decode) words. Point out any of the above tricky words. Also, remember to talk about the books they have read and discuss what happened in the story.