

PHONICS AT LARKRISE



GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Overview

At Larkrise Primary School we have a focused and systematic approach to the teaching of phonics.

On this PowerPoint we aim to share with parents some useful tips and resources that will help you while reading with your child at home and helping them with their Phonics homework. Please take some time to read through everything and use the linked resources and pages to support your child at home. If you have any questions or do not fully understand any of the advice given, please speak to Mrs Nottage (Early Reading Leader).

At Larkrise, we have developed our own Phonics programme with links to Letters and Sounds, Read Write Inc and Song of Sounds. All our reading books in the early years and KS1 have been structured in stages which correspond to the stages of phonics that we are teaching. These Big Cat Collins books are the link between Phonics and Reading lessons in our school. Children will take home books which include the letter sounds that they are confident with and words that have been pre-taught (e.g. character names) or tricky words they can read. This enables your child to build confidence by providing opportunities to practise the decoding skills they are being taught in school.

Pronunciation - The correct pronunciation of pure letter sounds is vital to your child's reading and spelling progress. If you are not confident with the pronunciation of pure letter sounds please visit the Oxford Owl parents page and take time to watch the information videos to help you.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>

How is phonics taught at school?

At school, your child will first learn a small group of sounds associated with written letters. For example, they will learn that 'm' makes an mmm sound, 'a' makes an ahh sound, and 't' makes a ttt sound.

Then, they will be taught to blend these sounds together to read whole words. For example, m—a—t makes 'mat'. Your child will then learn more sounds and will start blending them too. The order in which the sounds are taught follows the Letters and Sounds scheme.

Some children will also receive a Phonics Intervention in addition to their daily Phonics lesson. The aim of these sessions is to ensure that all children are working at an age appropriate level and are able to access texts across the curriculum. These small group sessions are tailored your child's abilities and any gaps in their knowledge.

Phonics Screening Check

At the end of Year 1, children will sit a phonics screening check. This is a nationwide assessment that all children will sit.

The phonics screening check is designed to give teachers and parents information on how your child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether they need additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.

The check will be administered by a familiar adult to your child, usually their class teacher. The children will be asked to read a set of real and made up (alien) words. They will do this 1:1 with the adult. All the words within this check are phonetically decodable and the children can say each sound first before blending to read the word if required.

We do not refer to this check as an assessment or test with the children. Due to the age of the children, we prefer to down-play these so as not to worry children.

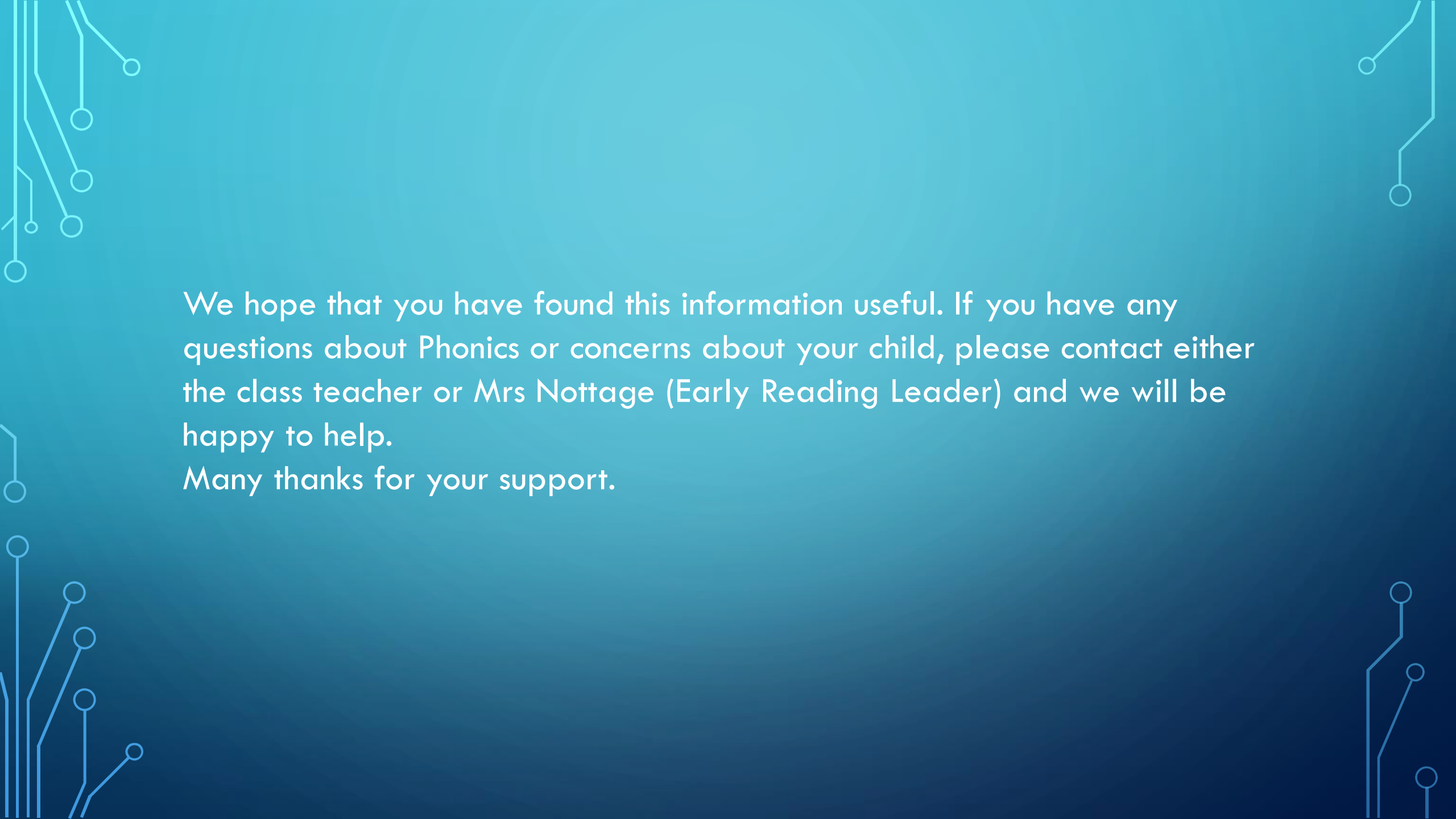
How you can help at home?

All children in EYFS and Key stage 1 receive phonics homework. These are sounds and words for the children to practice at home based on their own individual abilities. They complete one column at a time, reading down. Once they are assessed at school as being able to read these fluently, they will be moved onto the next column.

There are lots of simple things you can do at home to help your child learn to read.

- Learn how to say the sounds by watching the video on the link below.
- Use the Phonics homework to help your child learn how to blend sounds to read words. Learn one column at a time.
- Read together every day, even for just ten minutes. Take a look at our free eBook library set for your child by their Teacher on Big Cat Collins.
- Watch Ruth Miskin's top 10 tips video on the link below.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>

The background is a blue gradient with decorative white circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of straight segments and small circles, resembling a stylized electronic circuit or neural network.

We hope that you have found this information useful. If you have any questions about Phonics or concerns about your child, please contact either the class teacher or Mrs Nottage (Early Reading Leader) and we will be happy to help.

Many thanks for your support.