



Dear Parents,

I was lucky enough to meet some of you at the information session in July. It is a very exciting yet anxious time when your child is beginning school, such a lot of new information and forms to fill in.

It was for this reason that I postponed the usual phonics presentation, this year, until the autumn term and replace it with phonics workshops.

I will be holding a regular phonics workshop afternoon each half term. Each session will explain your child’s next phonics stage and there will be resources available to take home. This will be at 2.30 before the end of the school day. Hopefully this will be a convenient time for you, before you pick up your children from school.

In addition to this I will be holding an ‘introduction to phonics’ for parents of new starters on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm. I really hope to see you there. There will also be an opportunity for you look in the school library and understand how to borrow books with your child.

Details of planned workshops are as follows:

Date at 2.30pm	Details
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	What is phonics? How is it taught? What can I do to support my child at home? Phase 1, ideas and resources to use at home will be available. Library show round.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	What does phonics look like at NJK? What does my child actually do in phonics everyday? What is a grapheme/phoneme/digraph/trigraph/CVC word! Observe a short phonics session with real children! Phase 2 resources to take home.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	My child struggles with blending or segmenting – how can I help? Phase 3 resources and ideas available to take home.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Your child is not alone- Tricky graphemes children struggle with and how you can support them at home.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	How can I help with learning High Frequency Words? Play games and explore resources with your own child.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Why are no new sounds taught in phase 4? Why is phase 4 so important? Phase 4 resources to take home.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Question and Answers session What to expect in year one- phase 5 Why little and often during the summer holiday is crucial. Fun ways to read during the holidays – Summer Reading Challenge 2015.

As a teaching team we would really encourage you to attend these sessions, to help support your child at home and for you to have a good understanding of the phonics curriculum at NJK. Early reading, writing and numeracy skills are crucial for a successful start to school and we will endeavour to support both yourselves and your children every step of the way. If you have any concerns or questions at any time, please ensure that you approach your child’s class teacher at your earliest convenience or write a note in their home school link book which are checked daily.

Have a lovely summer break and we all look forward to getting to know you in the new academic year ahead.

Mrs. Marshall  
 English Subject Leader