



Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**RE: Statutory Phonic Check 2020**

*Learning God's Way*

Headteacher: Mr M Jee

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Dear Parents/Carers,

You may recall me writing to you at the start of Year 1 regarding the statutory phonics check that we are required to carry out in the Summer Term of Year 1. Some of you also attended my phonics workshops where I gave more details about this and how we teach phonics at St Margaret's. Due to Covid, this assessment was cancelled and we are now required to complete the check with all our current Year 2 pupils by the end of the Autumn Term 2020.

I will be carrying out the assessment with all our Year 2 pupils on a 1-1 basis over the next few weeks. The children have to read 40 words (20 pseudo/monster words and 20 real words). There is no time limit to the check and they can have a break if needed.

Please note we DO NOT tell the children that this is an assessment. They are told that 'Mrs Collins is coming to do some reading with them' and we make it a fun and exciting activity with a sticker reward at the end!

We have to submit the children's scores to the local authority by the end of term. The local authority then have to report the results to the Department for Education by the 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Following this deadline, they will publish the pass mark. Every year since the check began in 2012 this has been 32/40. Once this is published, we will be able to ascertain whether your child has passed the check.

We will report your individual child's result to you at our Spring Term parent's meetings in Feb./March. Any child who has not reached the expected standard and therefore not passed the check, will need to re-take it in the Summer Term 2021, when our current Year 1 children will also sit the check.

The government have cited that the reason for doing the check now, is to support teachers in identifying gaps in pupils' learning and plan further support to address these.

If you have any further queries regarding the phonics check, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office or email me at: [oak@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk](mailto:oak@stmargaretsprimary.org.uk)

Kind Regards  
Mrs Collins  
Assistant Head

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*To develop a life-long love of learning; to grow spiritually and reflect Jesus in our words and action; to foster self-respect and love for others; to provide opportunities for ALL to flourish; to serve our community; to prepare and equip for an ever-changing world.*