



**Bisley C of E Primary School**

*Everyone Successful Everyday*



## **Bisley Basics: Phonics**

**At Bisley C of E Primary School our children follow a phonics programme called Read Write Inc. As the name suggests, it goes beyond introducing the different sounds (phonemes), and encourages children to use their phonics to help them with their early reading and writing.**

All children will start **Read Write Inc.** in the first half term of Reception, when they will be introduced to the alphabet sounds. Right from the start of the programme the focus is on learning the correct pronunciation of each sound and learn how to write it correctly. The children really enjoy learning the little rhymes that accompany each letter, which remind them how to write it. For example to remember the formation of a letter "d" we think of a dinosaur and say the rhyme; "Around his fat bottom, up his tall neck and down his tail!".

The programme is pacy, and the children quickly learn two letter sounds, or **digraphs**, such as "sh" and "ch". This means that quite quickly children are able to read words such as "chip" or "shop", breaking down sound by sound. Once they have built a good bank of sounds (**phonemes**) we start to read short stories in class.

Children complete all their phonics sessions with their *Perfect Partners* and they are encouraged to read short *Ditty* story books to their *Perfect Partner*. They also read twice a week with a teacher. The hardest skill children master in phonics is **blending**. This means that when they see the sounds "ch-o-p" they can put them together to make the word "chop". This skill can come naturally to some children but most need lots of practise!

In Year One children continue to learn the more complex sounds such as "igh" in night and "oa" in goat. They will continue to practise and embed all their phonic learning to make sure they are becoming fluent readers. This practise also helps in the **phonics screening check** at the end of the year. In our experience the children actually tend to enjoy this short test because it gives them a chance to show off all the super phonics they have learnt!

We ask parents to support their children with their phonics by finding 5 minutes a day to practise the sounds they are covering in class and to encourage their children to blend when reading books at home.