



Gorsemoor Primary School

Acting Headteacher: Mrs. B. S. Heath B.Ed. B.A.

Gorsemoor Road,
Heath Hayes,
Cannock,
Staffs.
WS12 3TG.

Tel: (01543) 274788

Fax: (01543) 278623

E-mail: headteacher@gorsemoor.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.gorsemoor.staffs.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Guardian

Our Phonics scheme, which we follow in school, has recently been updated and one of the new features is a Speed Sounds Book. Each child will be given a book according to which sounds they are learning in their Phonics group. We focus on one sound each week and your child's Phonics teacher will date each page when it is being taught.

Each page has the letters that make the sound which we call 'special friends' and on the back it has the picture and rhyme that helps the children remember the sound the 'special friends' make. We are asking parents to look at the sound with their child and say the sound and rhyme over and over again throughout the week. This will support the work they are doing in class.

On the picture page there are also words that have the focus sound in. As an additional activity, we encourage you to Fred talk (sound out) these words. This is something the children will be used to doing in school. You may wish to encourage your child to have a go at spelling some of these words. In school we ask the children to hide their fingers and count the sounds and then have a go at writing the word. This can be completed on paper or even in the space underneath each 'special friends' page.

You will notice there are some review words on each picture page. These are words that contain a 'special friend' that the children have already covered.

Our Phonics sounds are split into set one, two and three. Before the end of Year 1 we would hope that all the children know all of the sounds from all three sets.

We kindly ask that you do not rush ahead and only look at the sound that is being covered that week or sounds that have already been learnt. This is imperative; as the steady speed we progress through the sounds at school allows a deep and thorough understanding for the children.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs N Palmer, Miss J Hudson and Mrs N Carvey