



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Hall Lane, Cronton, Widnes WA8 5DW

Tel: 0151 424 3926

Headteacher : Mrs H Rooney

1st February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to tell you about an exciting new phonics scheme that we have purchased to use across our school.

In 2021, a decision was announced by the Department for Education that the previous synthetic phonics document entitled Letters and Sounds, was to be removed from their accredited list of phonics programmes. Currently as a school, we use a programme called Phonics Play which is based on Letters and Sounds but is not currently seen as 'accredited' in the DfE's new list of programmes.

Although schools are allowed to continue using the Letters and Sounds document and other programmes they choose to teach from, we have made a collective decision that we will move onto one of the accredited programmes. We have chosen one that closely aligns with how we currently teach phonics across the school and this programme is called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised.



You may see some slight changes to the way that we approach phonics in the school. For example, although very similar to our current approach, some sounds are now in different 'phases' in EYFS and Year 1 so Sound Mats and resources sent home will reflect this change. We have also purchased new sets of Guided Read books for Reception and Y1/2. In the transition from using our current phonics programme to Little Wandle, you may notice us using slightly different resources with your child in and out of school but overall, the way we teach phonics will remain the same; it will continue to be a highly valued part of what we do in KS1, particularly in EYFS where we start children's important journey to become readers.

You can read more about Little Wandle in the parents section on their website found here:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Kind regards,

Mrs Mitchell and Miss Sharratt
Phonics and English Lead

Respect, Responsibility, Resilience

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