



Birch Hill is an inclusive and respectful school. In collaboration with parents, and the wider community, we work to enable all children to develop their aspirations.

We believe that teaching and learning should be inspiring.

We create challenging opportunities, which encourage children to develop respectful attitudes towards learning and all members of our school community.

All children are encouraged to take responsibility, think for themselves and become independent.

The key to learning at Birch Hill is for everyone to **learn, believe, achieve together.**



# Overview

1. Welcome & School Priorities – Mr Dillon
2. Who's Who
3. Golden Rules
4. Class Timetable
5. Topics & Trips
6. What's New in Year Reception
7. National Expectations
8. Examples of what a Secure Level looks like (Reading, Writing, Maths)
9. Home Learning
10. Useful websites & information
11. Home School Agreement
12. Handouts
13. Questions



## **Birch Hill is a Good School**

- Teachers make lessons interesting, pupils learn quickly and have a wide range of opportunities.
- Pupils say they have lots of friends and they feel safe.
- The school is at the center of the community.
- Leaders and governors are ambitious for the pupils to succeed.

(Ofsted October 2019)

# School Development priorities for 2023/4

## Strengths;

**EYFS** – 77% (+6 Nat)

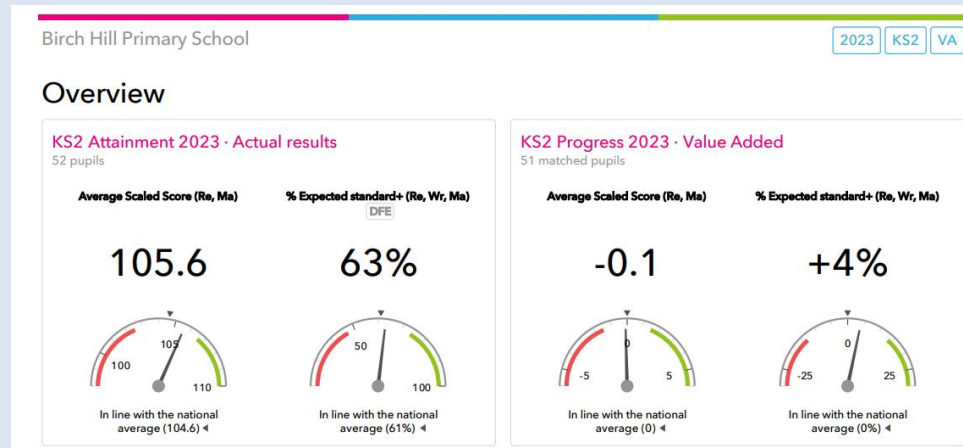
**KS1** – All in line with National and slightly above

**KS2** –

Y6 Writing EXS 81% (+10 Nat)

Y6 Maths EXS - 81% (+8 Nat)

Y6 GPS EXS - 79% (+7 Nat) and GDS 42 (+12 Nat)



## Main themes for School Development in 2023/24

### KS1

Combined in EXS and GDS

Writing improve GDS Writing

### KS2

Y6 Reading (EXS) and Writing and Maths (GDS)

### Groups

PPG and DD– significant gap in all areas

SEND – significant gap in all areas

Gender – significant gap with Boys/Girls in all areas

# School Development priorities for 2023/4

## **Data outcomes**

### **SDP**

Writing, Maths and Oracy

Reviewing the Whole School Curriculum (Equality, Diversity and Inclusive)

Review wellbeing strategies for whole community (children, staff and families) – including induction for new staff

Increase the participation of disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND in curriculum enrichment opportunities

Ensure that parents and carers are kept even more up to date about children's achievement and wellbeing

## **Broader Issues**

Join Maiden Erlegh Trust (MET)

# Parent Survey

<b>27 replies out of 400 children (13.5%)</b> <b>Lots of positive – about staffing and enrichment</b>	
A small number of concerns about behaviour and the impact on the rest of the class	We are a local, inclusive school and behaviour and SEND is a significant challenge for a range of reasons; children with EHCPs, or waiting to be assessed. Reduced services and increasing demands. We work with external consultants, SENDCo and Lead Behaviour TA.
Information about what children are learning	Welcome Meetings, Parents Evenings, Termly Reports, Open door policy. Curriculum Information on website.
Better communication (weekly newsletters and information about how children are getting on)	Weekly newsletter, text message, and emails. Schools are busy and some changes are out of our control.
Staff sickness, absence, recruitment	This is significant issue. Staff recruitment and retention.
Sex & Relationship Curriculum	We update the scheme that we use several years ago and give parents all the information. We believe that good SRE is about giving children this information early.
Extra curriculum beyond the classroom	We offer a range of extra clubs (mostly provided by staff) – choir and sport focused. Inter2Sports offer a football club and we're talking to them to see what other clubs (paid) that they can offer.
Wellbeing and emotional support	Family Support Advisor, Play Therapist (1 day a week), Read2Dogs, Nurture /Rainbow Room. Lead Behaviour TA. ELSA booked for this year.



# Staffing Structure

## Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

<b>Headteacher:</b> Mr Michael Dillon	<b>Deputy Headteacher:</b> Ms Karen Cameron	<b>SENDCo &amp; Inclusion:</b> Mrs Helen McAllister	<b>School Business Manager:</b> Mrs Nicola Down
Safeguarding & Attendance, Behaviour, Standards, H&S/RA, SEF/SDP, PM, PPG	<b>Learn</b> Oversee English & Maths & Assessment T&L, M&E, SATs/Standards, CPD/ITTCo	<b>Together</b> SENDCo, Inclusion & SRP Nurture, ELSA, Play therapy, MHST, CLA/SGO	Personnel, Finance, Office/Admin, H&S/RA, Site, Catering, website and social media

## Key Stage Leaders

Miss Molly Archer – EYFS/KS1 Ms Karen Cameron – KS2	<i>Teaching, Learning &amp; Assessment</i> <i>Parent Communication</i> <i>Behaviour</i> <i>SEND</i>
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## Governors Responsibilities

<b>Governors Strategic Links L&amp;M</b>  <i>School Lead - Michael Dillon</i> <i>Governor Lead: Jane Newman &amp; Stephen Weeks</i>	<b>Governors Strategic Links: Quality of Education</b>  <i>English &amp; Maths / Assessment &amp; Curriculum / KUW / Creative Arts</i>  <i>School Lead – Karen Cameron</i> <i>Governor Lead: Joey Gurney &amp; Stephen Weeks</i>	<b>Governors Strategic Links Personal Development</b> <i>PSHE/ SRE / House/School Council</i>  <i>School Lead – Hannah Kerslake</i>  <i>Governor Lead: Lee Clark</i>	<b>Governors Strategic Links Behaviour</b>  <i>School Lead – Carla Hooper</i>  <i>Governor Lead: Ruth Newland-Ward</i>	<b>Governors Strategic Links (EYFS)</b>  <i>School Lead – Molly Archer</i>  <i>Governor Lead: Ruth Newland-Ward</i>
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# Communication



## NEWSLETTER

- Staff visible morning and afternoon
- Come into the school office
- Website
- Weekly Letters & Newsletters
- Regular Text messaging: *Teachers2Parents*
- Emails school office - Secretary@
- 2x Parents Evenings Meetings virtual & Written Report
- Home Learning Exhibitions

If you any questions please talk to us

Look what we have harvested from our Edible Garden



### Harry Elsey Bike Ride

Over the summer months Harry completed a 37 mile bike ride from Guildford to shoreham-by-sea and has raised £375 for the school— Many thanks to Harry for his brilliant effort and all of the generous donations.

<https://gf.me/ul/yk2ucf>

### To the Beach - Harry's Cycle Ride



Diary Dates	
Year 5/6 Year Group Welcome Meeting	6:30 - 7:30 Tuesday 22nd September (Live via ZOOM)
Year 3/4 Year Group Welcome Meeting	6:30 - 7:30 Wednesday 23rd September (Live via ZOOM)
Year 1/2 Year Group Welcome Meeting	6:30 - 7:30 Thursday 1st October
Reception Year Group Welcome Meeting	6:30 - 7:30 Tuesday 13th October (Live via ZOOM)
Parent Consultations	4-7pm—Tuesday 20th October (Via ZOOM )
	4-7pm—Thursday 22nd October (Via ZOOM)





# SEND / Inclusion

## Sapphire Class, Rainbow Class & Wellbeing

- We offer a Nurture (Rainbow) provision for 8 Key Stage 1 children
- We have 2 Nurture Practitioners who deliver additional support to children across the school with friendship and social skills
- We have Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA) who work with children offering emotional support (**New training for 23/24**)
- We have a Play Therapist who supports a number of children once a week
- Sapphire Class (Specialist Resource Provision). The SRP is for children with Autism and Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) and have a Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The children are very much part of our school and spend time within their mainstream year group
- Mental Health Support Team (MHST)
- We continue to work with staff, parents and outside agencies to bring our children the interventions and support that they need
- Welcome Meetings and booklet this half term

## Friends of Birch Hill

- Over the years;
  - £20k for the large climbing frame
  - £15k for Infant climbing frame
  - £10k for new IWB
  - £5k for the Edible Playground
  - £4k raised money for a paving in EYFS area
- Currently raising money to upgrade the library

### Events

- Summer Fair
- Christmas Events
  - Cards
  - Discos
  - Present Room, Dress Up Days, Raffles,

**Please sign up and volunteer to help**





# Family Support & Attendance Officer (WPA)



- Della Payne-contact via school office (4 days a week)
- External Education Welfare/Attendance - WPA
- Offers support and guidance
- Links with other organisations & agencies
  - Local Authority Early Help
  - Various External Agencies
- Monitors attendance and links with Bracknell Education Welfare Officer
- Organises Family Learning sessions



# Who's Who in our Team?



Miss Archer  
**Teacher and Phase Leader**



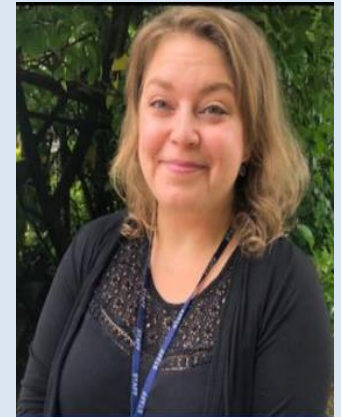
Mrs Watson  
**Teacher**



Mrs Holgate



Miss McGill  
**Teaching Assistants**



Ms Foster



Mrs Keane  
**Cover Teacher**

Reception Welcome Meeting  
October 2023



Learn Believe Achieve Together

# Golden Rules – Make the Right Choice

1) Be Safe

- Walk inside
- Follow instructions
- Play kindly
- Use school equipment correctly
- Being safe online
- Stranger Danger
- Be aware of your surroundings

2) Be Respectful

- Listen & follow instructions
- Be punctual
- Good Looking, Good Sitting
- Have the correct school uniform
- Other people's personal space
- Of other people's beliefs and differences

3) Be Ready to Learn

- Listen to instructions
- Following school rules
- Being polite
- Calm
- Looking after property (classroom, school)
- Capitalising
- Encourage and accept mistakes

4) Be Honest

- Tell the truth
- Take responsibility
- Accepting consequences
- Asking for help

# Are you ready to Learn?

READY TO LEARN



What happens if we are not  
'Ready To Learn' ?

Make a Choice



Make a Change



Reflect







# Class timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30am- 9.00am- Early Morning Task and Register	8.30am- 9.00am- Early Morning Task and Register	8.30am- 9.00am- Early Morning Task and Register	8.30am- 9.00am- Early Morning Task and Register	8.30am- 9.00am- Early Morning Task and Register
9.00am-9.30am Phonics 'l'	9.00am-9.30am Phonics 'l'	9.00am-9.30am Phonics 'n'	9.00am-9.30am Phonics 'n'	9.00am-9.30am Phonics 'l, n recap'
9.30-10.15 CI Play Writing Groups	9.30-10.15 CI Play Writing Groups	9.30-10.15 CI Play Writing Groups	9.30-10.15 CI Play Writing Groups	9.30-10.15 CI Play Writing Groups
10.15-10.30 Tidy up and Snack	10.15-10.30 Tidy up and Snack	10.15-10.30 Tidy up and Snack	10.15-10.30 Tidy up and Snack	10.15-10.30 Tidy up and Snack
10.30- 10.45 Talk for Writing	10.30- 10.45 Talk for Writing	10.30- 10.45 Talk for Writing	10.30- 10.45 Talk for Writing	10.30- 10.45 Talk for Writing
10.45- 11.30 CI Play	10.45- 11.30 CI Play Phonic Groups	10.45- 11.30 CI Play	10.45- 11.30 CI Play	10.45- 11.30 Child Initiated play.
11.30- 11.45 Prepare for lunch.	11.30- 11.45 Prepare for lunch.	11.30- 11.45 Prepare for lunch.	11.30- 11.45 Prepare for lunch.	11.30-11.45 Prepare for Lunch
Lunch Time 11.45-12.45				
12.45-1.15 Register and Maths Input	12.45-1.15 Register and Maths Input	12.45-1.15 Register and Maths Input	12.45-1.15 Register and Maths Input	12.45-1.15 Register and Maths Input
1.15-2.15 CI Play and Maths observations	1.15-2.15 CI Play and Maths observations	1.15-2.15 CI Play and Maths observations	1.15-2.15 CI Play and Maths observations	1.15-2.15 CI Play and Maths observations
2.15-2.30 Tidy Up	2.15-2.30 Tidy Up	2.15-2.30 Tidy Up	2.15-2.30 Tidy Up	2.15-2.30 Tidy Up
2.30-3.00 Gross Motor- big draw	2.30-3.00 Jigsaw Jack	2.30-3.00- Story and Songs	2.30-3.00- Story and Songs	2.30-3.00- Story and Songs
3.15 Hometime	3.15 Hometime	3.15 Hometime	3.15 Hometime	3.15 Hometime



# Key things to remember for Reception

- No pencil cases
- Statutory Assessments
  - Reception Baseline (first few weeks in school)
  - Reception Profile (end of the year)
- Home Learning Arrangements
- Reading
  - Your child will receive a new reading book once a week
  - Reading records, record everything.
  - Bring in Book Bags and Books everyday.
- Uniform
  - Please label everything!
- Please contact the school office if alternative pick up arrangements have been made





# Uniform

The **school uniform** consists of:

- Birch Hill Logo - Royal blue jumper or cardigan,
- White shirt or blouse,
- Grey trousers or skirt,
- Blue and white dress (summer term only)
- Black shoes - these must be sturdy (no trainers, boots, or ankle boots)

**Games and PE kit** is also required, consisting of:

- Royal blue shorts,
- Birch Hill Logo - Blue or White T-shirt,
- White socks,
- Black tracksuit (when outside) or black jumper & tracksuit bottoms (**plain and unbranded**)
- Plimsolls or black trainers

**Others:**

- Alice bands need to be small and plain.
- No jewellery is to be worn in school.
- Hairstyles. Haircuts are a reasonable length and the latest 'step' or train tracks fashion for boys, braided hair decorated with beads, and extreme hairstyles of any kind are not acceptable in school.
- Only natural hair colours are permitted.

# Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) SRE



Age Group	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me
<b>Ages 3-5 (F1-F2)</b>	Self-identity Understanding feelings Being in a classroom Being gentle Rights and responsibilities	Identifying talents Being special Families Where we live Making friends Standing up for yourself	Challenges Perseverance Goal-setting Overcoming obstacles Seeking help Jobs Achieving goals	Exercising bodies Physical activity Healthy food Sleep Keeping clean Safety	Family life Friendships Breaking friendships Falling out Dealing with bullying Being a good friend	Bodies Respecting my body Growing up Growth and change Fun and fears Celebrations



# Information about your child's progress

- Informal discussions with teachers
- Tapestry and Intervention Plans created
- Termly Parents Evenings
- Written report
- Children invited
- End of year report

# Tapestry



You should now be able to login to Tapestry to access your child's learning journal.



# Maths in Reception



# How to help with Maths at Home

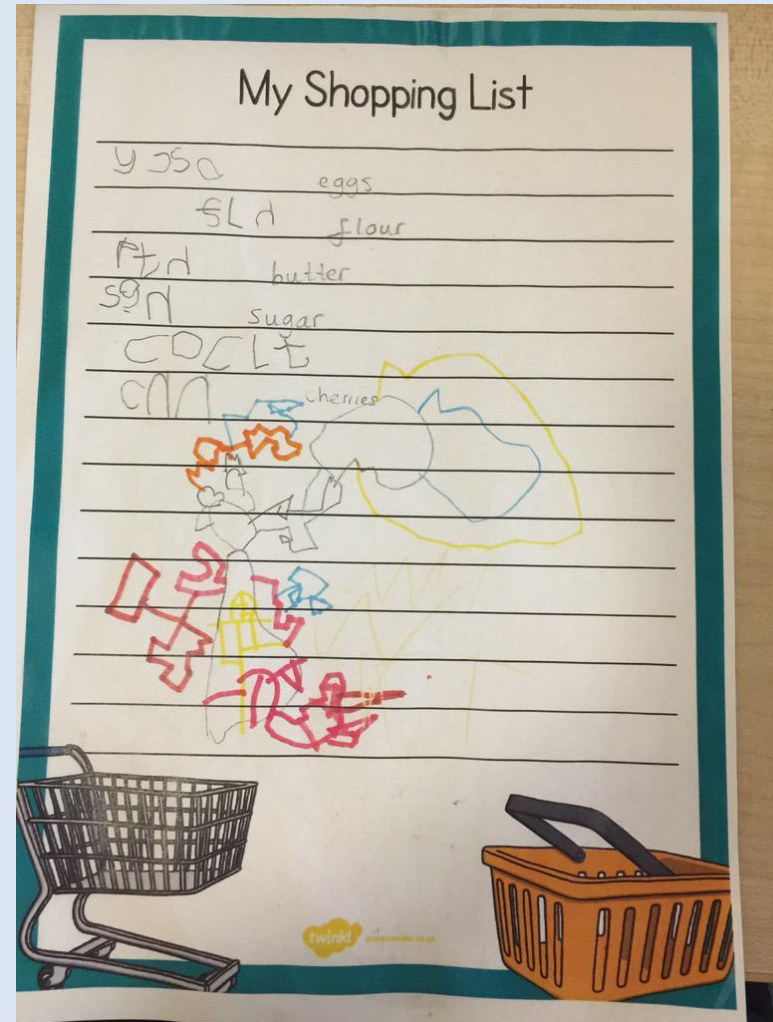
Counting – in everyday conversation, in play, steps, brushing teeth, toys in the bath, tidying toys.

- Subitising – with teddies, spoons, socks
- Ordering numbers – flashcards, post it notes, lining up toys
- Number bonds – in the car, with teddies/toys
- Addition and subtraction – include it in everyday conversation, cooking





# Writing in Reception







# Phonics at Birch Hill

## Our school uses the **Oxford Reading Tree** **Floppy's Phonics programme**

**By Oxford University Press  
and Debbie Hepplewhite**

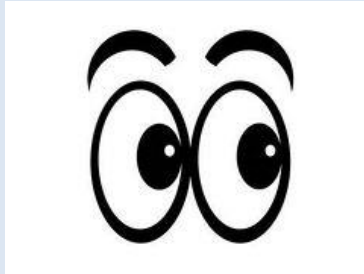






# What is phonics?

**Phoneme:** The smallest unit of sound in a word.



**Grapheme:** The letter or letters that represent the phoneme.

a

**Digraph:** two letters that make the same sound.

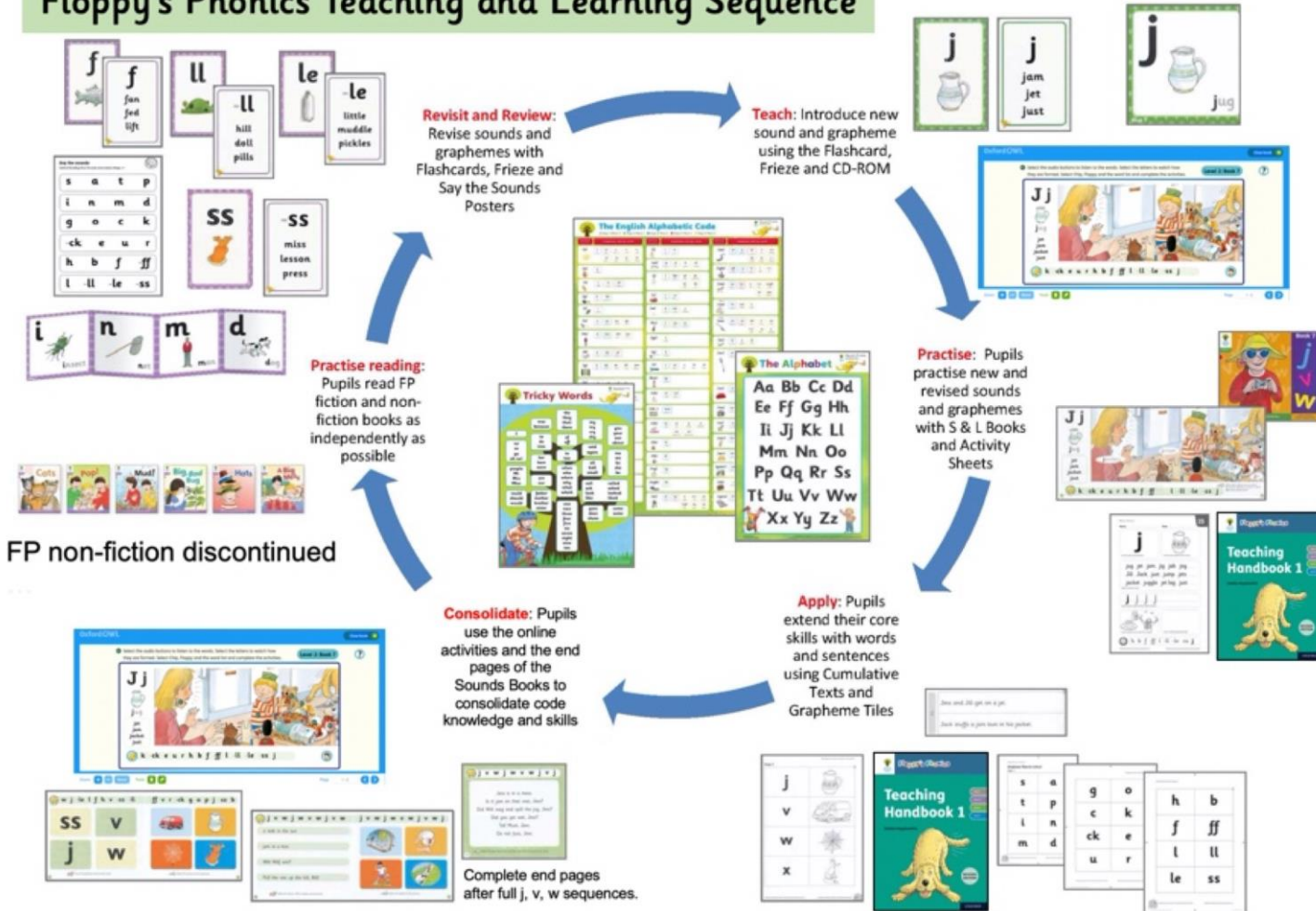
or

igh

**trigraph:** three letters that make the same sound.

# Phonics at Birch Hill

## Floppy's Phonics Teaching and Learning Sequence





# Phonics at Birch Hill



Drag and drop  
for **spelling**



Blend and reveal  
for **reading**

Select the letters to watch  
**letter formation**



**See** the letter/s,  
**say** the sounds

**Hear** the sounds,  
**point** to the graphemes

# Phonics at Birch Hill

1

**s**

off huff puff cuff tuff  
stuff scuff fluff puffin

20

**ff**

ff ff ff

85

**ai**  
wait  
plain  
remain  
afraid  
rainbow  
complaint

**-ay**  
away  
replay  
pray  
player  
layers  
dismayed

**eigh**  
weigh  
eight  
neigh  
sleigh  
weight  
eighteen

**-ey**  
they  
grey  
osprey  
prey  
survey  
conveyor belt

**/ai/**

Now that I'm eight, I can go on my neighbour's sleigh. It is pulled by her sweet horse, Grey. Look at his bright braided reins and hear his "neigh". I can play with Grey every day!

50

**or**

born fork torn for short  
cork horn corn worn  
shorts sport storm morning

**or or**

ee -igh oa -oo oo or or

It is difficult to spot the puffs at the zoo because they always float away.

The café has a fantastic treat, lots of muffins and several different types of coffee.

The dolphin sped through the rough waves and made us all laugh with joy!

My nephew has a telephone that is in the shape of an elephant!

School children sometimes pretend to have a stomach ache but they really want to stay in bed!

The machine took the cherries off the branches so the chef could make them into cherry pie.


## Teaching Handbook 2 – Level 5

## Teaching Handbook 1



# Phonics at Birch Hill

Cover notes in the *decodable books* provide guidance for the adult to support the young reader to blend and segment:



Series created by Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta  
Phonics Consultant: Debbie Hepplewhite

Once children have learned all of the sounds in Stage 3 they can go on to read the Stage 3 Floppy's Phonics Fiction and Non-fiction.

**USING THIS BOOK TOGETHER:**

- 1 Say the sound together.
- 2 Ask your child to finger-trace the letter group and say the sound.
- 3 Ask your child to point to the key picture and say the word, e.g. "ai as in aim".
- 4 Ask your child to sound out and blend the list of words.
- 5 Find all the words that include the focus sound in the picture. Some are labelled, some are not.
- 6 Talk about what is happening in the picture, e.g. Who can you see? What are they doing? How do you think they might be feeling?
- 7 Ask your child to say the sounds at the bottom of the page as quickly as possible.

Remember to do the fun activities at the end – letter-tracing, matching and reading!


**THIS BOOK INTRODUCES:**

**ai** as in aim.  
**ee** as in eel.  
**igh** as in knight.

Hear the sounds on our website  
[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

**LABELS IN THE ILLUSTRATIONS**

The labels show the focus letter group in black. Encourage your child to listen for the focus sound within the word as you read the whole word to them.



**Debbie Hepplewhite's Top Tips**

**What is blending?**  
For reading (decoding) say the sounds from left to right of the word and blend the sounds to hear the whole word.

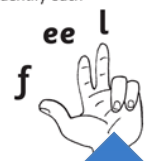
**How to blend:**  
Point under each grapheme (letter or letter group) as you say the sound, then run your finger under the whole word as you say the whole (or blended) word.  
e.g. **l-igh-t light**

**Sounds and spellings**  
Letters written like this /k/ refer to a sound, not a spelling.  
e.g. /k/ as in cat, key, duck

**Tips for spelling (encoding)**  
Say the word slowly to identify each sound in the word.


Use your left hand to tally the individual sounds to your thumb and fingers.

Write down the graphemes which are for each sound you have tallied.



**TEACHERS:**  
For inspirational free resources and support plus more books  
[www.oxfordprimary.co.uk](http://www.oxfordprimary.co.uk)

**PARENTS:**  
Help your child's learning with essential tips, activities and free books  
[www.oxfordprimary.co.uk](http://www.oxfordprimary.co.uk)



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The characters in this work are the original creation of Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta who retain copyright in the characters.  
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**Blending routine for reading**

**Segmenting routine for spelling**



# Home Login

- Home Login sent out Friday- stuck in reading records
- Tutorial Video added to Tapestry
- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/login?active-tab=students>

A screenshot of the Oxford Owl login page. At the top, there is a green bar with the URL 'www.oxfordowl.co.uk'. Below this, the page is divided into sections for 'School code:', 'Your username:', and 'Password:'. The school code is 'pb1', the username is 'JoeBloggs', and the password is 'cat123'. The page is framed by a dashed line with scissors at the corners, indicating it is a printable card.

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

School code:  
**pb1**

Your username:  
**JoeBloggs**

Password:  
**cat123**

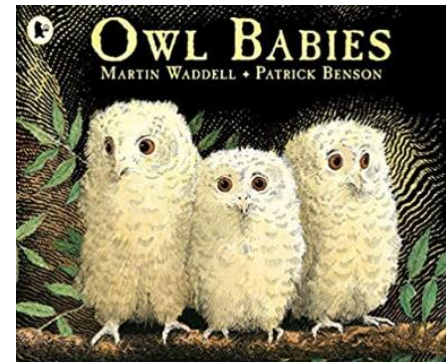
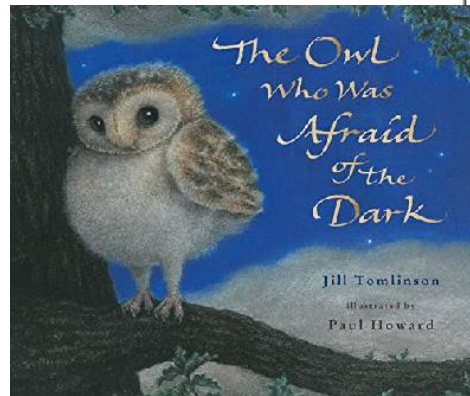
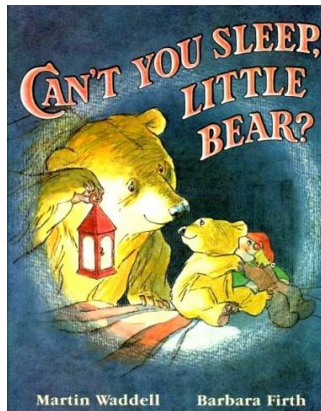


# Reception Stamp of Approval Books



Teacher

STAMP OF  
APPROVAL



# Home Learning Exhibition

Easter Bonnet- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Vehicle Display- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

## Experiences

Vehicle Visits: During Summer 1

Bug Ball- During Summer 2





# A few final reminders ...

- Emergency Contact form-it's vital that we have two contacts
- Make sure you are getting emails (and not going into junk!)
- Uniform: available from Mr Wagstaff  
mikewagstaff56@gmail.com or from the school office
- Catering in-house & Lunch Online ordering system
  - Order and pay at home by midnight
- Online payments only (no cash) Eduspot App
- Parent Mail login / contact (including junk)
- KOOSA Kids – Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club
- Attendance
- Nut free, chocolate free school, healthy snacks (water only)



# Thank you and AOB