



Thank you to all those parents who joined the phonics meeting on Wednesday 11th November. Reading continues to be of great importance at Lambs Lane and it was wonderful to see so much support from parents. Below are some of the questions that we answered on the night for the parents who were unable to attend the meeting, alongside some useful links for parents to use.

What is more important to do in the evening – sound practice, reading a book or phonics video?

It is important for your child to have a mixture of learning. We would encourage you to alternate between the three. Practising their sounds is great when you don't have long to sit down with them; having your child read to you is great for some 1:1 time and some quiet time before bed; watching the phonics videos can help cement some of their sounds they learnt in school that week and as it is a video, you can leave your child to practise their sounds while you finish the washing up.

How are the children grouped for phonics?

Children are assessed every half term, so we know the best phonics group for them. They are then in a group of between 6-16 children based on their phonic understanding. From this they will begin to learn new sounds or review sounds they struggle on alongside reading a book or ditty at their specific level.

Should you re-read books to your children?

Re-reading a book for children is beneficial for supporting their comprehension skills. If they develop a love for a particular book, encourage them to read or listen to the story. They will be a lot more interested in the story if they pick it out themselves as well. We often re-read a story at school to help them gain a deeper understanding of the book – and the children love when they can also join in with reading the book.

What is 'Fred Fingers' and why do we use it?

Fred Fingers are used for spelling. Children hold up the hand that they do not write with. They sound out the word they are spelling and put up the correct number of fingers for the word.

For example: m-ee-t = 3 sounds = 3 fingers.

- Ask your child how many sounds they can hear in the word "meet"
- Ask your child to put up their Fred Fingers (there should be three)
- Using the hand that your child writes with, they pinch the first finger and say the first sound in the word 'm'

- Pinch the middle finger and say 'ee'
- Pinch the last finger and say 't'
- Fingers are pinched left to right, as we would read.

Are there any practice sheets to help with letter formation to use at home?

On the Oxford Owl website, there are plenty of resources for you to use and print out to support your child's learning at home (you may need to scroll a bit to find the right sounds).

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

If you have a couple of children learning phonics, should you work with them separately or together?

Reading as a family is a lovely activity to do. While it is great to do this together, it can also be a good occasion to have 1:1 time with your child. It is important to understand where your child is working and use your time to support your child's progression.

Useful links for parents:

Ruth Miskin Parents' Page:

<https://ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>

Ruth Miskin Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

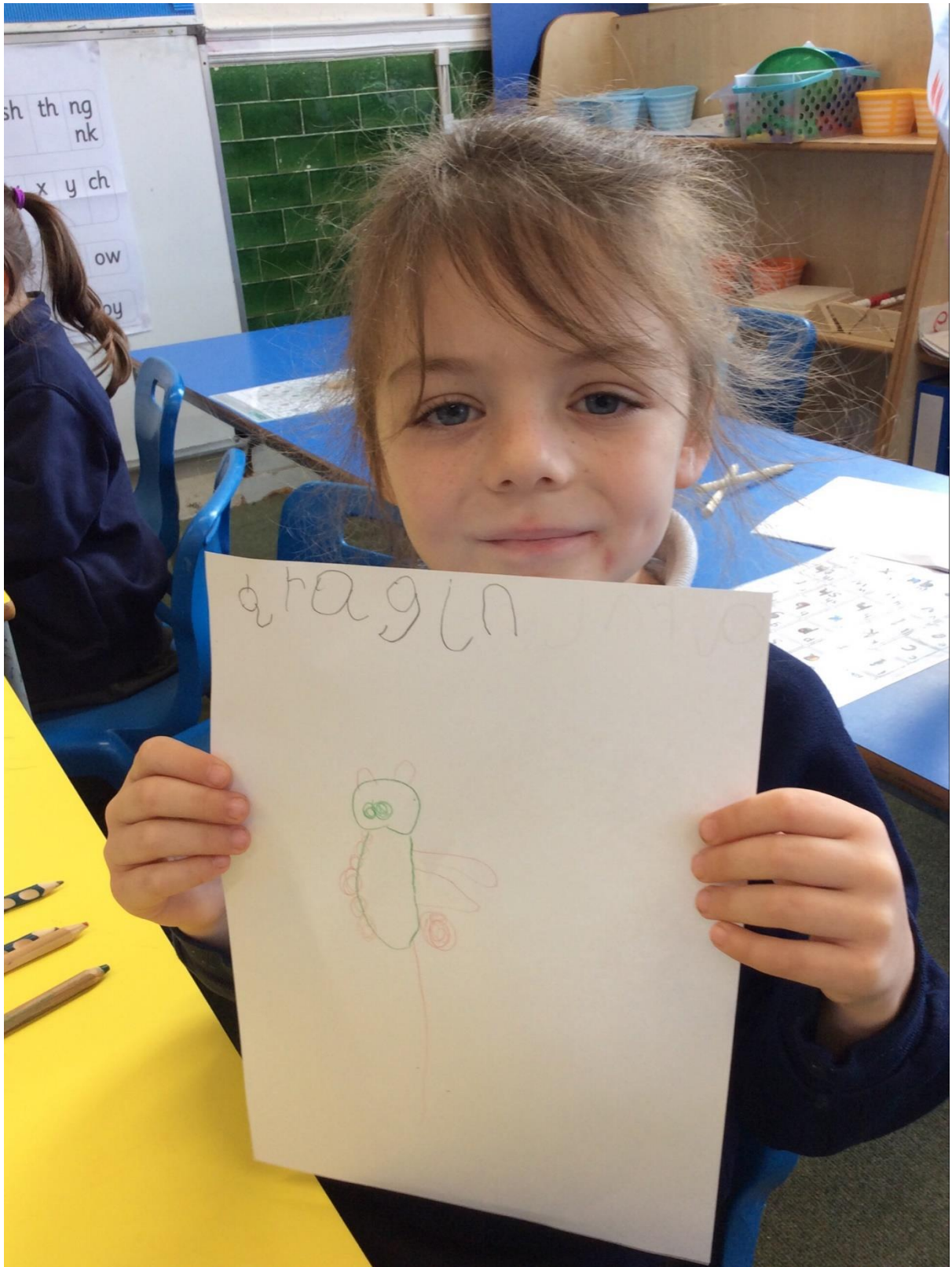
Free e-books for home reading:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>











f	r	th	ng	nk
b	st	sh	w	w
u	h	h	y	qu
c	k	l	v	ch
e	j	j	z	z

