



Holmesdale Infant School  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Each week we will be focusing on 4 letter sounds (phonemes). We do ask for your support in helping your child to learn these sounds (phonemes). Your child will bring home 4 cards with the letters sounds (graphemes) on. You can help your child to learn these sounds by:

Finding something at home which begins (initial sound) with these letter sounds, '**s**, '**a**, '**t** and '**p**' and blu-tak your letter to it.

For example, they could fix the letter 't' to their teddy or to a pet tortoise, but I think the pet tortoise might object to a letter sound being stuck to him! What about slithering like a snake, or crawling like an ant? Perhaps you could pat your t-u-m? The children could take a photograph to show what they have found beginning with these letter sounds. You could work and play together, baking an apple pie or simply some toast! (Just a few ideas to help!)

Perhaps you could make a list of words beginning with these letter sounds. Here are some we have thought of:

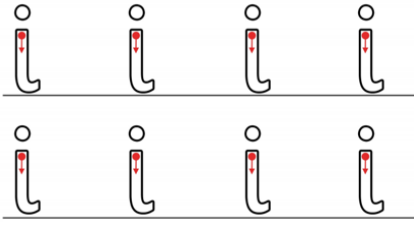
**s is for sun, sat and sip.**

**a is for ant, at and apple.**

**t is for tap, tip and ten.**

**p is for pig, pat and pen.**

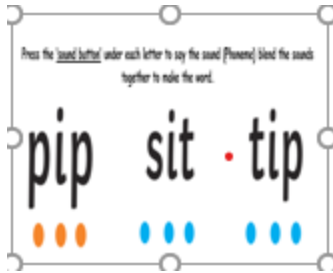
In class we use pictures as a way to show objects which begin with the days sound and ask the question- '**What can you see beginning with ....?**' We encourage each child to say '**I can see a ..... beginning with the .....sound**'.



Time is spent to develop letter formation. We focus on starting and finishing in the correct place.

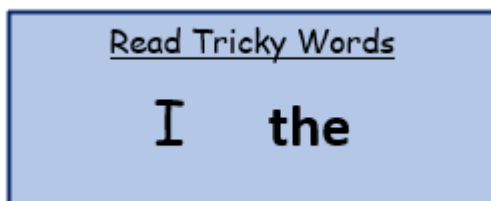
**Ideas for home-** Using different colours or types of pens to practise the letters. Put

flour on a flat surface (tray or plate) and have a go at creating the letters using your finger tip.



Your child is introduced to words, containing the new sound learnt that day plus sounds previously taught. Each letter has a button underneath. The children are shown how to say each sound as the button is touched, this is called **segmenting**. Each separate sound is then put together to say the word, we call this **blending**. These stages can take time, so please don't worry if your child is not yet independently segmenting and blending. Please continue to model by segmenting and blending each word and encouraging your child to join in with you.

**Ideas for home-** Playing I-spy is a great way of supporting segmenting and developing your child's ability to blend. For example. I spy something that sounds like s-o-ck d-o-g c-a-t.



We introduce words that we call '**tricky words**' these are words which cannot be sounded out easily. We share what is tricky and ask each child to say the word by sight each time they see it displayed in

a book or in the environment.

**Ideas for home-** write each tricky word on a piece of paper/sticky note and place around your home or garden for the children to spot and read.

The children have enjoyed sounding out these letter sounds.

We would love to see anything you draw or find beginning with these sounds. Please bring them to school.

Have fun! EYFS Team

Letter Sound Cards and Tricky Word

s

a

t

p

Tricky Word

I