



## Reading

Your child will be learning a new sound (a phoneme) every day. Encourage your child to share the sound and related action with you. Playing "I Spy" using the letter sounds is a great way to reinforce the sound.

Synthetic phonics teaches children to recognise letters and the sounds they represent. They learn the skill of sounding out and blending all through a word. It is very important that when reading, children are only expected to sound out words for which they know all the sounds.

Spending time reading to your child is just as important as hearing them read. Children need to hear stories to increase their vocabulary and develop their understanding. Spend time discussing the pictures, characters and storyline.

Reading isn't only about books. Involve your child in reading whenever you can, for example-

"Which street are we in?"

"What letter should I look for in the phone directory?"



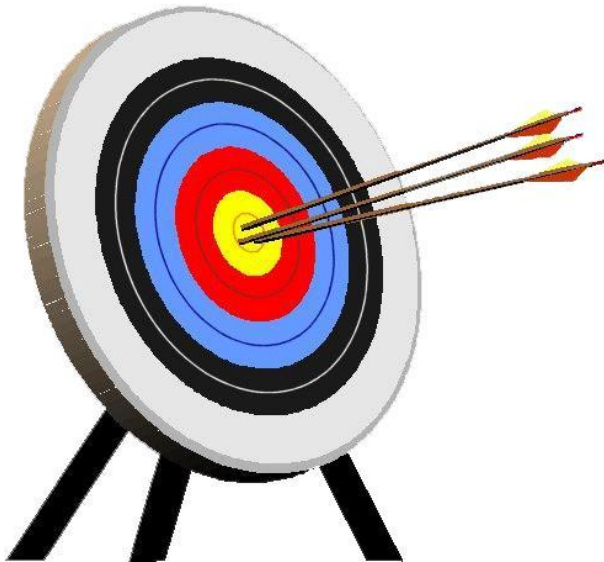
## Speaking and Listening

In Reception the children all have the opportunity to be 'Wanachi' which is the class special person of the week. Their role is to be a responsible member of the class and remind children how to show good listening. We encourage the children to ask 'Wanachi' questions as Wanachi 'shows and tells' us about the things they enjoy and objects/photos they have brought in to share.

Encourage your child to tell you about what they did in school or about the story they heard in school.

# Literacy in Reception Year

Ways to Support Your Child  
and  
Termly Targets



## Termly Targets

At St. Alban's we are focusing on writing as a whole school. As the children in Reception are just beginning to write, the focus is very much on writing initially letters and words and progressing to simple sentences.

Your child will be working on writing letters accurately, writing down the letters that relate to the sounds they hear in the words and forming simple sentences. The children have sound grids, which has each letter and a corresponding picture reminding them of the sound the letter makes. They are encouraged to use these when writing.

The children will be progressing through the targets below.

1. I can listen and respond.
2. I can say the sounds (phonemes) and put them together to make a word (blending).
3. I can say the sounds I hear in words (segmenting).
4. I can hear the sounds in words and write them down.

You can support your child in the work they are doing in school. The following pages give you some ideas.

## Ways to Help at Home



### Writing

Help your child learn how to hold the pencil the correct way. You could use the explanation of the fore finger and thumb being frogs legs that actually hold the pencil and the middle finger being the log that the frog sits on.

It is very important that right from the start, your child forms letters the correct way. As they learn new sounds, they will also learn how to form the letter/letters (grapheme) associated with that sound (phoneme), ask them to show you what they have learnt. Make the shapes anywhere you can: in the air, in the bubbles in the bath and point them out in the street.

Help your child “think it, say it, write it, check it” when they write something. Encourage them to write, this can be anything at all from play writing, to writing their name, to helping you write a shopping list. They will also need reminders to leave a finger space between each word.

When you are writing, ask for their help in spelling words, for example “What sounds can you hear in milk?”.