**Phonics Stickers, Flash Cards and Sound Mats**

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read and write. It helps children hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language. Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. For example, the sound k can be spelled as c, k, ck or ch.

At Brixham C of E, we teach the children phonics through the ‘Bug Club Phonics’. This is scheme which is used throughout the school to support children in learning the sounds needed to make up words allowing them to become confident, fluent readers.

**Phonics Stickers**

As the children begin to learn their sounds in Reception, they will come home with a sticker on their jumper with the sound that they have been learning, please talk to them amount this sound. Adults around school will also chat with the children about the sound that they have learnt, this really helps the children when embedding that sound, the more times they see, hear and sound the sound the easier it is for them to learn and remember it, thus supporting them in becoming a confident reader as they move up the school.

**Flash cards**

The children may bring home flash cards with different sounds on them. This s to reinforce the sounds that the children are learning and will be sounds that they have looked at in either their phonics sessions at school, or with an adult. In order to support them with their reading, please practice these sounds at home. Below are some activities that you might like to try with the children.

**Sound Mats**

Some of the children may bring home sound mats, these are sheets that will have the sounds on for the phase that the children have been learning in school, please practice these at home with the children

**Activities that you can try at home:**

Just 5 or 10 minutes a day helping your child practice their phonics can really support them with their reading. There are lots of different activities that you can do with your child / children at home that will help. It is really important that when practicing the sounds at home they are pronounced correctly. Support for this can be found through the Letters and Sounds website <https://lettersandsounds.org.uk/for-home/overview>. There are also links on the school website to the different sounds.

**Repeating Sounds –** Look at the flash card and repeat the sounds several times

**Sound Hunt** – Write the sound on post-it notes and hide around the house. Ask your child to see home many they can find

**Sound Spotter** – Look where there is any text and see of yu can spot the cound that matches the sound on the flash card – this could be any text such as a magazine, cereal box etc.

**Revisit Familiar Books** – Look at books that your children have always enjoyed. See of you can spot the different sounds in the words.

**Making Words** – How many different words can you make using that sound

**Colouring / Writing Sounds** – draw, write and / or colour the sounds saying it as you do. This could be on pieces of paper, in the sand, on pebbles, with chalk or anywhere else that you think of!