

King Athelstan Primary School

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Headteacher: Emily Newton

19th September 2024

Dear Families,

Reception children are starting to learn [phonics](#) at school. Phonics is a way of matching the small units of sound in spoken English to the letters or groups of letters which represent that sound in writing. They learn one new phoneme (sound) each day and then recap all of the phonemes they have learnt that week on a Friday. For example, next week, we will be learning the phonemes: m, a, s, d. When learning a new sound, the children learn an action and are taught a rhyme to help them write the sound.


From **Friday 27th September**, each child will receive a zip wallet containing "Pocket Rockets". These are little booklets which contain the sounds learnt that week and short sentences to practise blending words together. This is a great way to consolidate the sounds learnt at school, at home. **Please read these booklets at home each week and put them back in your child's book bag every Friday, ready for the next set of Pocket Rockets.**



In addition to the Pocket Rockets, there will also be a school library book sent home **every Friday** for you to read to your child. We really believe in developing a love of reading from an early age and so by sending home a range of different texts, we hope to give children an opportunity to develop their reading skills. You can also read eBooks for free at [Oxford Owl](#).

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Kind regards,

Laura Davis, Sarah Wharton and Jade Gulliford

Reception Team

