



## Reading Corner 6

At Oakwood we follow the **Read, Write, Inc** programme which provides a structured and systematic approach to teaching phonics and reading in line with the National Curriculum. This programme is introduced in Foundation and follows on into Key Stage 1. Mrs. McCormack is our Read, Write, Inc Manager.

### What is phonics?

This is the teaching about the relationship between letters and sounds. Although we have 26 letters in the alphabet, children need to learn **44** sounds (phonemes) in order to read and write. That is why learning to read can be challenging for many children.



### How does RWI teach the 44 sounds?

First we teach children one way to read and write the 44 sounds in English.

We use pictures to help, for example we make 'a' into the shape of an apple, 'f' into the shape of a flower. These pictures help *all* children to read the sounds easily.

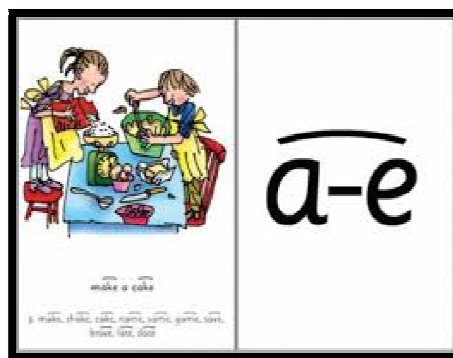


Children learn to read words by sound-blending using a frog called **Fred**. Fred says the sounds and children help him blend the sounds to read each word.



Then we teach children the different spellings of the same sounds, for example, they learn that the sound 'ay' is written **ay**, **a-e** and **ai**; the sound 'ee' is written **ee**, **e** and **ea**.

We use phrases to help them remember each sound for example,  
**ay**, *may I play*,  
**a-e** – *make a cake?*



There are many helpful resources and video tutorials for parents regarding RWI on the Ruth Miskin website [www.ruthmiskin.com](http://www.ruthmiskin.com)

Go to the **parent** tab on the website for explanations and information about phonics.

We held a session for the Foundation parents this week so that they could find out a little more about Read Write Inc and see it in action. The PowerPoint that accompanied the session is available on our website in the **Reading Corner** section.