Information for Parents

**Learning the Letter Sounds**

In Jolly Phonics the 42 main sounds of the English language are taught, not just the 26 alphabet sounds. For each sound there is an action which helps the students remember the sound the letter makes. As the letter sounds are taught, we will be gluing them into a JOLLY PHONICS NOTEBOOK that will be brought home. This notebook contains the letter sounds taught so far. The students will bring their Jolly Phonics Notebook home several times each week to practice the sounds for “homework.” **If possible, go through the Jolly Phonics Notebook with your child each time that they bring it home.**

The letter sounds are not introduced in alphabetical order. The ones in the first group, /s,a,t,i,p,n/, have been chosen because when those letter sounds are combined they make the most simple words to sound out.

Some sounds can be written in more than one way but the students are taught only one at the beginning. For instance, students will learn the short “a” sound first (/a/, as in fan), then the long “a” sound, /ai/, as in “rain,” is taught later, while the alternative long “a” sounds, [a\_e] (as in “cake”) and [ay] (as in day), will be taught at the end.

**Thank you for spending time with your child to practice the letter sounds and sending the notebook back to school the very next day after it is brought home.** Your support is much appreciated.