

30th November 2018

Fortnightly Focus Year R

Phonics: We have learned to recognise, sound and write the letters a, s, m, t, i, n, d, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e. We have been practising recognising them and forming them correctly using the rhyme cards you were given at parents evening. We have also been practising blending and segmenting sounds ready to read and write CVC words.

Maths: We have been learning to recognise all our numbers to ten and beyond, matching them to group of objects and numicon pieces. We have also moved onto adding two numbers together, by counting out two groups of objects and putting them together to find the total. The children have done really well with this, but are still occasionally rushing their counting, so practise lots of counting at home, reminding children to say one number for each item they count. We practise putting the objects we are counting in a line to make this easier. If your child is able to do this confidently, extend them with larger groups and objects that can't be moved.

Squiggle While You Wiggle: We have been doing 'the twist' to Twist and Shout by the Beatles. This helps prepare the children for forming looped letters such as e, k, g, j, y

Ideas To Support Your Child At Home: Please continue to practise recognising the Red and Green words with your child, look out for them in their reading books and encourage them to read them without blending. If you feel your child is able to confidently and consistently recognise the words, please move on to encouraging them to write them. There are lots of creative ways to practise spelling the words, please feel free to ask your child's class teacher for some ideas if you feel this would help. Please remember that most children are at the very early stages of reading and writing and we therefore don't expect these to be learned straight away, there is no set deadline or spelling test.

Here are a few ideas to support your child's fine motor skills. These will help your child be more confident in holding a pencil correctly, improving their writing skills.

- Cutting and sticking – using scissors and glue, cut out pieces of paper and stick them together to make a picture or design.
- Getting dressed – encourage your child to get dressed independently, including putting on and zipping up their coat, putting gloves on, doing up buttons etc.
- Pizza play dough/cutting up food – using play dough or any other form of malleable material (e.g. bread dough), get your child to roll it out into a pizza shape and using a knife and fork, cut it into pizza slices. They can also decorate their pizza with smaller pieces of dough, shaped into different foods. If you do not have play dough or anything else to use, just encourage your child to cut up their own food at dinner time.
- Finger painting – pour your chosen material (e.g. jam, shaving foam, flour, glitter) into a tray and let your child draw a picture with their finger. They may make a mess so be prepared!
- Hanging out the washing - get your child to help you hang out the washing. Encourage them to use clothes pegs to secure the clothes. They can also help you take the washing down once dry and fold it neatly into piles.
- Writing – any opportunity you may have to do some writing or drawing with your child, please encourage them to hold their pencil/pen correctly using "nip, flip and grip!"

General: We have now started rehearsals for the nativity, which are going well. Please continue to practise your child's lines with them at home – encourage loud speaking voices! It is also helpful if you can say the line before theirs to help cue them in.

Thank you for your support.

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SCHOOL
MEMBER

