

## Fairfields Primary School

### Summer 2017 Letter to all parents with children in Foundation Stage

Dear Parents,

We have another fun packed term ahead of us with lots more interesting learning. We will continue to focus on the children's interests and adapt activities to incorporate these rather than take children away from their activities to work in groups.

#### Letters and sounds



We will continue to learn letter sounds and names including diagraphs (2 letters joined together to make a sound e.g. ch, sh, ng). This will help the children to progress further in their reading and writing. We will focus on including these sounds in their writing ensuring that the letters are formed correctly. The children will take part in a range of fun games to help them to learn these sounds. Here are some ideas and websites which you could use to support your child at home with their letters and sounds learning.

#### Activities

Snap, pairs, Kim's game (using objects with a specific sound in), sound twister, singing nursery rhymes

#### Websites

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/InteractiveResources.htm>

[http://www.ictgames.com/phonemeFlop\\_v4.html](http://www.ictgames.com/phonemeFlop_v4.html)

#### Guided reading

We are really pleased with how the children are progressing with their reading skills and we hope you are too. The following skills can be practised at home when reading with your child: pointing to each word to show 1:1 correspondence, using the pictures as a guide to read words, using knowledge of sounds to segment and blend letters to read words and discussing the storyline of the book to ensure your child understands what they have read. Please read with or to your child as often as possible; a range of books as well as their school book is preferable.



#### Numeracy



There will also be time given to developing children's concept of number including ordering numbers correctly, counting larger groups of objects reliably, addition and subtraction. Other areas of numeracy we will cover will include naming and describing 2D and 3D shapes, measure, repeating patterns, time and money.

*Vocabulary:* addition, plus, subtraction, take away, minus, equals, one more, one less, before, after, numbers 0-100, circle, square, triangle, square, oblong, pentagon, hexagon, corners, sides, sphere, cone, cube, cylinder, cuboid, faces, edges, heavier, lighter, taller, shorter, longer, o'clock, minute, hour, pound, pence, days of the week, months of the year.

#### Physical activity

PA (Physical Activity) will include games (**Wednesday**) and gymnastics (**Friday**). Please note that the days have changed. We cannot stress enough how important it is for your child to have their PA kit in school all week complete with appropriate foot wear. Indoor kit comprises of black shorts and white t-shirt whereas outdoor kit is tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, tracksuit top (or similar) and plimsolls or trainers all of which should be named. Children can become distressed if they have to borrow kit from the school. Can we please remind you that, in the interests of safety, earrings must be removed or

covered during PA lessons and long hair must be tied back. Also, as the weather improves, children should bring a water bottle into school and you may wish to provide your child with a sun hat and sun cream (which they need to apply to themselves).

In order to keep you informed with what your child has been doing in school throughout the term we will continue to update Tapestry every fortnight. This will let you know the activities and learning they have been involved in.

To allow off site activities to take place it is essential that we have a sufficient number of adults to help us so if you are willing to help on any of our trips (however big or small) please make yourself known. You will need to have a school DBS clearance before you are able to help. If you are interested please contact the office and they will give you information.

### **Helping your child at home**

Below are some ideas for games and activities to use at home:

- Playing 'I spy' at home, in the garden or when you are out for a walk will help your child hear sounds in words
- Doing puzzles together, talking about the pictures you create will help improve your child's vocabulary - checking if you have the correct number of pieces before you start is a good way to practise counting
- Playing dominoes, snakes and ladders, snap and any pairs games is good for your child's maths and memory
- Creating birthday cards, using scissors and glue will help improve your child's fine motor skills
- Making up songs and silly rhymes together will help your child to hear alliteration and rhyme
- Sharing books, you can read the words and your child can talk about the pictures and the characters
- Drawing pictures about places you have been, things you have seen etc
- Counting everyday objects e.g. how many cars that pass you on the street, dogs you see on a walk, children you see in the supermarket
- Making games together and playing them e.g. your own themed dominoes or snakes and ladders type games
- Setting challenges e.g. by the end of the day can you show me 10 different ways of moving from one side of the garden to the other
- Having a number/letter hunt - hide letters or numbers around the house/garden?
- Getting a clipboard and doing an audit - estimating and counting - how many lights do you think are in our house? How many are there? (count and check)
- Writing shopping lists/diaries of your day/letters and cards together.

To support your child's growing independence:

- Please ensure that you say goodbye to your child outside of the classroom and that your child brings his/her own belongings into FS in the mornings and puts them away themselves.
- Encourage your children to dress, undress and be able to zip/button up their own coats.
- Help your children to use a knife and fork independently at mealtimes.
- Involve your children in household chores, such as, tidying their bedrooms and helping with the washing-up.

Miss Smith  
FS1

Mrs Moseley  
FS2