

EnglishWhat to Practise ~ How you can help at home

Speaking and Listening ~ we will continue to work on listening with sustained concentration and building new stores of words in different context, such as in science, history, DT, geography, philosophy etc. In these contexts and lots of others, including sharing and review time, we will ask and answer questions, make relevant contributions, offer suggestions and take turns in conversation.

Phonics and Grammar ~ We will continue to revise all the phonic sounds we have already learned and the letters that represent them, using them in our reading and writing. We will also learn practise and use the alternative letters used to represent the same sound ~ for example 'ai' as in 'rain' and 'a-e' as in 'gate' and 'ay' as in 'play'. We will learn our split digraphs and rigraps such as 'igh'. We will spot the differences and discuss general rules, like 'ai' is often in the middle of words and 'ay' often at the end. As well as long vowel A we will also learn long E, I, O and U and other alternatives like 'er', 'ir', 'ur' and 'ou' and 'ow'. You will notice these phonic sounds in your child's reading books. This is great! Please look out for them and spot them when ever you can (like when you are reading to them or on the cornflakes (long a-e as in flakes). We will learn about nouns, verbs and adjectives.

Reading ~ We will read and talk about stories every day. We will have new little brown bear keyrings of high frequency word to practise reading and spelling to take home We are practising these words every day so children can just see them and say them.

We are really enjoying alternative stories to the Three Little Pigs. We are retelling the stories, acting them out and creating our own versions. We are reading about homes from around the world and sharing the story 'Same, Same but Different' in Philosophy. We will enjoy and learn rhymes and poems. Children will read in a small group each week and then bring their book home to read and re-read to you.

Writing ~ In writing we will continue to focus on developing our handwriting and beginning to join. We will also be writing instructions linked to our computing. Each Monday we will write about our sharing news . We will share and write rhymes and poems. We will make up our own versions of the Three Little Pigs stories and we will label homes and design our own amongst lots of other writing! Punctuation ~ we will focus on full stops, capital letters, spaces and ?!

Talk together as often as you can. Listen to what your child has to tell you. Encourage them to ask questions. Find things out together. All the conversations you have are giving your child more vocabulary to use and they will pick up and use the phrases and sentences you use too.

Practise the phonics we send home, especially the sound and tricky word keyrings. Notice them in reading books and words you see around. Talk about them. Say the sounds that these letters make but when saying the letters for these sounds use the NAMES of the letters. The sounds with 2 letters (for example ai as in train) are called digraphs and the sounds with 3 letters (for example igh as in high) are called trigraphs. We are learning these words. Your child will bring keyrings home. Please practise sounding out and blending the words. This will make a huge difference.

Read every day or as close to this as you can. Re-read your child's book and read other books and stories to your child, talking about what you are reading and new words you find. Write in your child's learning log.

If your child is writing at home help them to form and join their letters correctly and to write them on the line with tall letters tall and hanging down letters hanging down. Always use capital letters for names and the names of places. Practise spellings. Thank you.