



WEST HESLERTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head: Rachel Wells B.A.(Hons)Q.T.S. NPQH

High Street, West Heslerton, Malton, North Yorkshire. YO17 8RD

Telephone/Fax:- 01944 728286

E-mail:- admin@heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk;

<http://www.heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk>

“Children are at the centre of all we do”

January 12th 2021

Dear Parent,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well.

We just wanted to message everybody to share how children work in Reception and support you all with home learning. At the ages of 4 and 5, obviously the children are very young and their attention span can be quite short.

Each day in class we have short 15-minutes inputs for phonics, reading, writing, maths and topic, this is then sometimes followed by a small group of children working with an adult to complete a task. During this time, if the child is not having adult led learning, they choose their own learning activities, which we call ‘Busy Brain Time’. This is where they do most of their learning! It is important to have a play-based curriculum linked to whatever we are learning about. Therefore, we **do not** expect them to be sat completing maths or written work for a long length of time at all. Short, regular bursts of work, intermitted with play activities and breaks will work best.

The three prime areas of the Foundation Stage (Reception) curriculum are ‘Communication, Language and Literacy’, ‘Physical Development’ and ‘Personal, Social and Emotional Development’ – **not** maths or writing

In addition to the work sent via ClassDojo, here are some activity ideas you could encourage your child to do:

- Complete a jigsaw
- Games – snap, dominoes, dice rolling, bingo
- Matching games
- Play with playdough
- Build something from Lego
- Use small scissors to practise cutting paper
- Bake with an adult
- Gardening
- Junk model building
- Singing/rhymes
- Outdoors exploring and investigating
- Chopping fruit/veg
- Sorting, counting, matching activities

We will continue to upload work, videos, links and ideas via the ‘weekly timetable’ and extra posts on ClassDojo. Please don’t put pressure on yourselves as parents/carers, but try to enjoy this time together. Research has shown that children learn best when learning through play.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions about the ‘weekly timetable’ or extra posts/ideas on ClassDojo. We are here to help.

Mrs Woodward, Miss Johnson and Mrs Taylor-Barber



“The school’s work to promote pupil’s personal development and welfare is outstanding”

OfSTED inspection, February 2019