

This booklet has been produced in response to parents' requests for ideas to help with writing at home.

We all appreciate the help and support you already provide for your children, particularly with home reading and spelling. The aim of this booklet is to provide additional ideas, which may be fun for you and your child to do together.

The ideas in the booklet have been sectioned into the three academic terms. We hope that this will encourage you to return to the booklet throughout the year. There are, of course, areas of overlap and ideas that are suggested in every year group. This is only to be expected; after all writing Christmas cards (fortunately or unfortunately...) isn't a one off activity!

While teachers won't be expected to mark any work based on ideas from the booklet, they will be delighted to see any and enjoy sharing them with the rest of the class.

Reception Year

The first stage in learning to write includes the development of manipulative skills. With this in mind we have included many ideas to help strengthen your child's hand control as well as practising their writing skills.

Autumn Term

Shopping lists

Threading-cotton reels etc.

Playdough

Write your name (lower case)

Play I spy -initial sounds

Recite Nursery Rhymes

Puzzles

Leaf rubbing

Using paper and a variety of media to draw and write

Christmas cards

Letters to Santa

Thank you letters

Write birthday cards to friends as and when needed.

When it's your birthday-

Write a party list - Who will you invite?

Spring Term

Tracing

Writing out words from the flashcard tin

Finger painting

Play silly rhyming words (cat sat rat lat zat)

Make up a rhyme for your name (Sue too, Mary fairy)

Construction toys (Duplo)

Magnetic letters to make words on fridge door

Pegging out the washing

Easter cards and Mother's Day cards

Robot talking e.g. C-A-T what's the word

Summer Term

Postcards

Father's day cards

Letter shapes in the sand

Painting

Use large paintbrush and water to write words and letters outside on the ground and walls

Make and write a sentence using words from the word tin

Go on a minibeast hunt and write names of the insects you find

Record a story tape

Year 1

Throughout Year 1 we extend the childrens sight vocabulary by sending home additional flash cards. When these have been completed spellings will be sent home to learn. Rather than test the children, we expect them to use the words they have learnt in class writing activities.

The activities below are intended to give you some handy hints and top ideas so that you can help your child develop other skills they need to become confident writers.

Many thanks for all your help and support.

Autumn

using magnetic fridge letters to write names or make words

Learning Nursery Rhymes

Tracing, colouring in

Jigsaws, peg boards

Christmas lists

Christmas cards

Labels for presents

Name places

I spy

I went to the shop and I bought... (memory game)

Describing objects for others to guess

Spring

New Year resolutions

Thank you letters

Shopping lists

Imaginative play (shops, schools, holidays etc.)

Writing alongside parents or older brothers and sisters

Playing Spider

Labelling objects around the house

Easter cards

Summer

Cooking recipes

Reading/writing menus

Sewing

Diary/scrap book of holidays or family events

Writing messages for people

Telling jokes

Holiday lists

Postcards

Letters to friends or relative

Year Two

Thank you for taking the time to look through these suggested activities. We fully appreciate the support you already give with reading, spelling and homework (another big thank you from all of us), and we hope you and your child can find a little something here that appeals to you.

Autumn

Keeping a diary

Listing opposites

Describing the colours through the Autumn changes

Scary words at Halloween

Writing cards

Writing a shopping list

Christmas list

Writing questions and answers for historical events

e.g. Bonfire Night

Writing a weekly calendar

Writing labels

Writing reports about football matches or other sporting events

Letters to Father Christmas

Learn a new word every week – spell it and use it

Word searches

Spring

New Year promises
Thank you letters
use magnetic letters to leave messages on the fridge
Making up stories and taping them
Sending emails and text messages
Collecting homonyms
Writing questions and answers about the Saints-
e.g. Valentine, David, George
Playing Ten Questions
Keeping a note of family events (important or funny!)

Summer

Playing Consequences and Hangman
Telling jokes
Limericks- Learning some and trying to change some of the words
Making a jobs/responsibilities list
Finding words in other words
Making words from a mix of letters (Countdown style)
Who am? - riddles
Writing post cards from holiday
Writing letters to the next class teacher, friends and family members