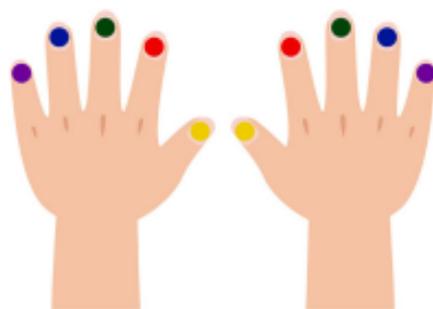


## Foundation

This week the children have started to learn to read and write. All the children have worked extremely hard to recall the letter sounds and to practise letter formation with 'lead in' and 'lead out' lines. We hope that your child has enjoyed practising this skill using their phonic booklet. Please use the pencil provided in the bookbags for homework. The pencil can be left at home. Don't worry if your child is finding the formation hard – we will keep practising and at this stage the most important thing is learning the sounds. Keep persevering! Please return the booklet to school every day, even if the homework is unfinished. The children learn 4 new sounds a week with Friday being used to consolidate the week's learning – there will be no new letter to complete at the weekend.

We have also been thinking about how we change as we grow older by sharing how we know we have grown. The children enjoyed manipulating clay to make a face. We have also started to use the 'Helicopter story' technique where children verbally tell a story to a grown-up who writes it down. Later, the class act out the story. This is proving very popular with lots of children asking to tell their story. Examples can be seen from FCH on the VLE on this [link](#).

This week in Maths we have been learning about numbers 1-5. This week for homework, we would like you to help your child practise the skill of finger differentiation, which is important for developing numerical understanding, especially their quantitative skills. First, put a coloured dot on each fingernail so your child's hands match the diagram below.



Start with the maze sheet (sent home in the bookbag). Have the child match their red index finger to the red path in the maze and slowly trace the path to the end. Each path should be traced slowly and take several seconds. Next trace the green path with the matching finger. After a child uses their dominant hand to solve all of the paths in the maze ask them to use their other hand. You could then move on to the dot sheet (also in the book bags). Start with the first row of coloured dots. Have the child use their dominant hand and match their corresponding finger to the first coloured dot. They should move across the row putting down the finger that matches the dot in colour. Make sure they hold their finger on the dot for a few seconds before they move on. After a child finishes each row using their dominant hand ask them to complete each row using their other hand. A blank page of spots is included so children can make their own patterns. As an extension you could give fingers and spots numbers. Learning can be shared via Tapestry.

Next week, we will be thinking about our bodies. The children will take part in a collaborative art work, share the story 'Funny Bones', name parts of the body, and will discover some of the things that happen to our body when we exercise.

Best wishes,  
The Foundation Team