

Foundation

Another week of home learning ticked off. Well done to all the children for picking up the new digraphs so quickly! They are tricky, and lots of children will continue to sound out words with the single phonemes instead of seeing the digraphs. To assist with this, keep practising **seeing** and **reading** them on flashcards, practise **writing** them in various ways (use different mediums, surfaces and sizes; air writing is fun) and also hunt for them in books at home! We really enjoyed seeing what was in the children's imaginations – lots of rainbows and animals. Also, this week saw the first Spanish lessons with Sra. O'Reilly, where children learnt to greet their friends in Spanish. Thank you for uploading the work to Tapestry – we hope you are finding the feedback useful.

We just wanted to share with you how we work in the Foundation Stage and support you with home learning. Obviously Foundation children are young, 4 or 5, and their attention span can be quite short. Each day in class we have short 15-minute inputs for Maths, phonics and our other topic work. Then, a small group of children work in rotation 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 continuous provision. This is where they do most of their learning and demonstrate amazing concentration! It is so 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 length of time at all. Short, regular bursts of work, interspersed with play activities and breaks will work best.

In addition to the published work, there are some activity ideas on the VLE and here are some additional things you could encourage your child to do:

- Complete a jigsaw
- Games – snap, dominoes, dice rolling, bingo
- Matching games
- Play with dough (you could google Dough Disco)
- Build something from Lego
- Use small scissors to practise cutting paper
- Bake with an adult
- Gardening
- Junk model building
- Singing / rhymes
- Outdoor exploring and investigation
- Chopping fruit / veg
- Sorting, counting, matching activities

We will continue to upload work, videos, links or ideas daily, please bear in mind, a lot of the work will be practical.

Please don't put pressure on yourselves as parents and carers, but try to enjoy this time together. Research has shown that children learn best when learning through play.

If your child is attending school part-time, they will bring their phonics book home for the days they are joining in with our home-learning provision but please can you remember to send it back in with them for us to use on the days they are in school. If your child is in school full-time, we will keep their phonics book here and we are even doing 'homework' in school.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions about any of the work that has been sent. We are here to help.

Next week, we will be thinking about following your dreams and what you would like to do when you grow up. We will also be doing some art, based on Matisse's snail and looking for seasonal changes, hoping as part of your lock-down routine that you can go on a winter walk. Please remember that plans and downloadable worksheets will be on the VLE.

Best wishes,

The Foundation Team