

Foundation

Welcome back to the final term of Foundation. The children quickly remembered the school routine and have begun the term with great enthusiasm. Thank you for supporting your child with their 'Easter Scrapbook'; we really enjoyed sharing them with the children.

We are delighted to welcome Reina to FCSH and hope she quickly feels at home in the St Faith's family.

This week, we introduced our topic of 'Our Place in the World' by thinking about where Cambridge is geographically located.

We have been so impressed by the beautiful cursive script the children have adopted this year and to further develop their handwriting we have started formal handwriting lessons. The letter formations are grouped in a particular order to best support the children's handwriting development, with animal characters as visual reminders. The letters are introduced according to their shape. For example, the letters 'o,a,d, g, q, s and c' all belong to 'Georgia the pig' family and are formed in the same way by going up and over, before coming back round to form the rest of the letter. The children will receive a handwriting book and complete letter formation practise in school every Tuesday and Thursday. These books will then be sent home where the remainder of the letter formation can be completed using the writing pencil we have provided, before being returned to school ready for next lesson. Please only complete the letter that has been introduced and practised at school. As always, our advice for homework remains unchanged – we would rather the children went to bed at a sensible time rather than you feel you must complete a homework assignment.

The table below outlines the homework your child will receive each day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Monday	Reading book
Tuesday	Handwriting book (to be returned by Thursday morning)
Wednesday	Phonics homework
Thursday	Handwriting book (to be returned by Monday morning)
Friday	Reading book and Maths based activity (set in this, the weekly Foundation newsletter)

For Maths homework this week we would like the children to think about solving one of the problems below:

To play the game, you will need two dice and cards with the numbers 1 to 6 or to 12 on them.

To play the simple version of the game:

- Cut out the cards 1-6 and place upwards on the table.

- Player 1 rolls both dice and turns over the cards which are the same as the numbers rolled. For example, if a 4 and 5 are rolled, they would turn over the 4 and 5 cards.
- They can roll the dice again until they can't turn over any more cards.
- If a double is thrown, the player's turn ends.
- Add up any cards that are left showing to give their score.
- Then Player 2 has a turn.
- The winner is the player with the lowest score.
- Can you play again and get a different score?

To play the harder version of the game:

- Cut out the cards 1-12 and place upwards on the table.
- Player 1 rolls both dice and adds up the number of spots. They then turn this card over. For example, if they roll a 4 and 6. It adds up to 10. Then turn over the 10 card.
- They can roll the dice again until they cannot turn over any more cards.
- If a double is thrown, the player's turn ends.
- Add up any cards that are left showing to give their score.
- Then Player 2 has a turn.
- The winner is the player with the lowest score.
- Can you play again and get a different score?

To extend both games you could ask the children:

- Can you explain your strategy?
- What is good about the game? What is not so good? Why?
- How could you alter the rules to make it better?
- How could you extend the game?

As the weather slowly improves, we would like the children to remain safe in the sun while playing outside. Please send your child to school with a named school uniform sun hat and sun cream. Sun hats may be ordered from the uniform shop and will last through your child's time in Pre Prep. On particularly sunny days, it is advisable to apply sun cream to your child before school and we will support your child to apply more if necessary during the day. We are unable to apply sun cream to your child unless it has been provided by parents - using another child's sun cream, for example, would not be an option. Also please remember to return your child's water bottle so they can remain hydrated throughout the day.

Next week, we are thinking about organising events using basic chronology. In order to support this learning, we would like the children to make a timeline of their lives. Please could you email in small photos (no larger than 8cm) of your child when they were 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 years old for us to print out and stick on a timeline. Our word of the week will be 'past.'

Best wishes for the Summer Term,

The Foundation Team