

Parent Partnership Morning

Writing Focus

What's reading got to do with it?

- Repetitive story telling at an early age is an important part of language development.
- Story structure and language structure is developed.
- Please continue reading to your children until they are in Year 6
- Children who are read to and read regularly make better writers.

The impact of story telling and making

- The story as an experience of memorable, meaningful images
- The pattern of the plot
- The building blocks – characters, settings, events, openings and endings
- The flow of sentences
- Words – developing a wider vocabulary

He won't read!!

- Read to your child more than he reads to you, especially at a younger age.
- Read the book to your child before they have a go. Put in accents, silly voices or the wrong words to help them concentrate and have fun
- Reading books!! Every book is a reading book!
- Read a sentence each.
- Choose a time carefully.
- Give lots of praise.
- Do children see you reading for pleasure?

Reading as a Writer

- Subconsciously, children will be collecting ideas for their writing through reading, as well as having a much better idea of structuring language.
- In school, we use novels or short stories as a stimulus to writing and will look at how the author has created different effects.
- If children want to read the same story over again – encourage this. It helps to embed story and sentence structures.

Talk for writing

- Children produce much better writing when a 'speaking' activity has helped them to formulate their ideas.
- The way that girls and boys play is very different, resulting in girls having had much more experience of role play and story language.
- The toys we have introduced on the playground have resulted in much better levels of communication between boys.

Physical development

- Pupils need good core strength to be able to write confidently
- The more pupils exercise, the easier they will find it to sustain writing, as good core strength is needed.
- Small construction toys such as lego and K'Nex help strengthen finger and hand muscles.

Support from Home

Believe it or not, you can significantly help improve your child's writing without them ever picking up a pencil at home!

How?!!

1. Ask your child when they would like to work with you and make this a regular slot eg. 3 times a week.
2. Ask your child where they would like to work and make the environment relaxed, cosy and undisturbed.
3. Ask your child what they would like to write about.

4. Explain that they will not have to write anything down!
5. Chat through the plan for your story and type it into a laptop or tablet.
6. To write the story, make up a sentence each and challenge each other to improve it. Have a minor reward for each sentence.
7. Model your thinking all the way through.

8. After every 2 or 3 sentences, read it all through to see if it makes sense.
9. Stop whilst they are still enjoying it!
10. It may take 2 or 3 sessions to finish a story.
11. Insert pictures or make it into a book.
12. Print it out and proudly display it in their bedroom and share with other family members.