

Dear Parents

We just wanted to let you know that the children have really settled into Reception life. They love being a Lion cub and the adults are all so impressed so far by the way they want to learn new things, share and show kindness to others, show lovely manners, tidy up as a team, all have good appetites (however it's amazing what the little ones will do for a dojo " eat your sprouts and you get a dojo! " Ha ha!) and make good progress on how long they can stay focused on an activity for.



We hope that they come home telling you all the exciting things they have done and learnt. If not, we are sure that you have already logged onto Tapestry and read and looked at their learning.

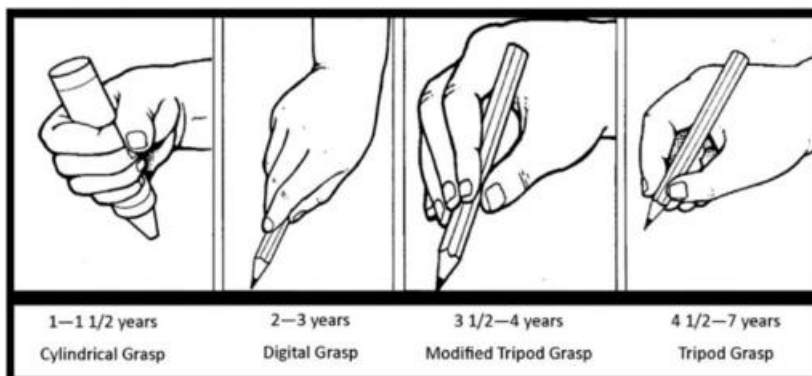
Read Write Inc (RWI)

The children have now started their phonics programme of Read Write Inc (RWI). Each day they learn a new sound and learn how to 'Fred talk' (sounding out) words with those sounds in. We will share the sounds the children have learnt on our webpage at the end of the week (school webpage- <https://www.parkgateprimary.org.uk/> - children- class pages- Lion cubs). Also, we will provide a link to the RWI virtual classroom, where you and your child may watch RWI lessons on these sounds. These virtual lessons will provide consolidation for your child, plus an insight for you as the adult on how we teach phonics including the vocabulary we use.

Letter formation

In their RWI lesson the children practise forming these letters too. We will provide printable letter formation sheets plus the RWI rhyme that helps your child remember the correct formation. It is vital at this early stage that children form letters (and numbers) correctly.

Also, please encourage your child to hold their pencil using the tripod grasp -see below



Rhymes for letter formation - taken from Read Write Inc.

a Around the apple and down the tail	b Down the back to the top and around the bar	c Call attention! circle like this	d Around the dinosaur's back, up to the dinosaur's head	e Left off the top and around the egg	f Down the neck and up the feet
g Around the gate, then down the leg and across the grass	h Down the head, up to the top and over the back	i Down the body, up to the top and down the tail	j Down the body, up to the top and down the tail	k Down the kangaroo's body, up and up	l Down the long leg
m Down Mabel's mouth	n Down Nobby and Nobby's nose	o All around the orange	p Down the pencil, up to the top and down the point	q Down the head, up to the top and down the tail	r Down the rabbit's leg and up over the ear
s Slither down the snake	t Down the tower, up to the top and over the top	u Down and up and over the point	v Down in a vee, up	w Down up, down, up	x Down the arm, up to the top and the other arm
y Down the neck and up to the top	z Down the neck and up to the top				

Reading

We are just going to send two reading books home (a story book & RWI sounds blending book) with your child. We will send them home on a Monday and please could you return them to school on a Friday. If you would like to comment on how your child is getting on with their reading, you can email us on the class email.

Reading books

We are going to send home a mixture of picture books or some with words in (depending on the level your child is reading at).

Picture books are just as important as books with words in. Using books with just pictures helps your child tell the story in their own words without any barriers. They can develop their vocabulary, e.g. 'a red hat' becomes 'a floppy red hat!' and really use their imagination. 'The floppy red hat was a present from the naughty elf last year!'

Below are some types of questions you could ask your child which would exercise comprehension, inference and prediction skills. Some questions would require simple explanations and some would mean your child would need to expand on their ideas.

For example...

Where did it come from? How did it get there? Where are they? Who is in the family? Why do you think -has/ have done that? Who is in the picture?

How does feel about this? How would you feel if that happened to you?

What is making ... feel this way?

What do you think is going to say/do?

What do you think is going to happen next?

The same book

We would like them to read familiar books over and over again. This is to build up their fluency of reading and storytelling. If your child has a thirst for reading, please continue to read the books you have at home. Please carry on reading to them. This is an important skill to hear stories being read to them as this builds up their vocabulary and imagination.

Sound Blending Books (A6 slim line books)

These books are used to consolidate the letters the children have learnt in RWI. The aim is for your child to 'Fred talk' (sound out) the word and then turn over the page to see if they are correct by checking the picture.

We appreciate there is a lot of information to take in. If you have any queries or clarity about the above, please do not hesitate to email us on our school email.

Many thanks for your continued support

The Lion Cub Team xxx