Week Beginning 28 September 2020



Dear parents / carers,

May we take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during these difficult times. We have put together some resources and ideas for things that your child can do during this next week to help them keep up with their learning.

This Friday, we will email again with Home Learning ideas for the following week. Please don't hesitate to email your child's class teacher if you have any questions as we will be more than happy to help.

Read, Write, Inc (RWI)

Set 1 sounds

As you are probably aware, we started teaching Set 1 sounds last week. We taught 'm' on Thursday and 'a' on Friday. Of course, now we have started teaching the sounds, we don't want to lose 'momentum'.

Read, Write, Inc have produced some fantastic videos which will help teach your child their sounds. Your child will be au fait with the steps as they are exactly the same steps that we use. The beauty of the videos is that they can be paused or replayed.

The video links for the first five sounds are below. We have included 'm' and 'a' as we thought it would be useful for your child to watch them again for reinforcement. The video links will be valid until **Tuesday 6th October.** Next week, we will send video links for the next five sounds (i, n, p, q, o)

Set 1- m

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Uz0Doqaw/luvlyuBt

Set 1- a

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/G5ernDZz/zHGBhweS

Set 1-s

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/h8pXIZFs/6sm5KotP

Set 1- d

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NSqvYCSi/HAKywa8O

Set 1- t

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dBi7PYcS/Ngo5cc9c

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We have also attached handwriting sheets for the sounds they will be learning this week and next week. Please email the school office (office@firslower.org) if you need to pick up a printed version of these sheets. Here are some ideas as to how to use the handwriting sheets:-

- Say the sound e.g. sssssss (looking at the picture prompt if necessary)
- Say the word for each picture, emphasising the initial sound (e.g. sssssnake, ssssssnail)
- Practise writing the sound, whilst saying the handwriting phrase e.g. 'slither down the snake' (saying it aloud helps children to start and finish the letter in the correct places)
- Practise writing the sound, this time saying the sound as they write it e.g. ssssss

Green Set 1 Speed Sound book

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of practising taught sounds so that it becomes embedded and children are able to read them 'at speed'. Some children need to see the same sound many times before they remember it.

Please take a few moments each day to sit with your child and practise the taught sounds in their book. Try to look at them in a random order, otherwise children start to learn the order they appear in. The aim is for your child to say the sounds speedily without needing to refer to the picture. Some children do this more quickly than others so patience is key!

Fred Talk games

As well as learning letter sounds, a key skill to being able to read words is blending (saying the sounds and 'pushing' them together to read a word). We use Fred Talk games to help develop the skill of blending sounds spoken by an adult.

An example of *Fred Talk* can be seen in each of the sound videos listed above (approx 5-5 ½ mins into the video). In the sound sheet folder which came home last Thursday, we have included some examples of Fred Talk games for you to play with your child. We recommend playing a different game each day.

Reading books

It would be lovely for children to start sharing books at home so reading books for Pine children will be placed under the gazebo on Mondays and Thursdays, starting from this **Thursday (1st October)**.

We understand that it may be tricky coming to the school as your child is self-isolating but perhaps somebody could pick up some books on your behalf.

Can we politely remind parents that it is **absolutely essential** to sanitise hands before touching the books and place 'used' books into the 'Returned Books' box for a 72 hour quarantine period.

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Having books read to them

It is so important that children have stories read to them as this helps them to develop their vocabulary and comprehension. For this reason, you will be sent a video link every day of your child's class teacher reading a story. The first video links will be sent to you today.

Maths

This year our maths planning is based on the White Rose Maths Scheme. Oak National Academy has produced some very useful online Maths lessons, based on this scheme, that your child may enjoy and which would support the learning we would be doing in school.

Over the next two weeks the activities focus on the early mathematical skills of sorting, matching and comparing.

To access these lessons, please follow the link below:

https://www.thenational.academy

Once you reach the site:

- click the lessons tab and you will enter the online classroom.
- Then click the subjects tab which will give you a menu showing all the years groups.
- You can then click on the Early Years Foundation Stage and that will take you to a menu showing all the EYFS online lessons for each subject.
- Please click on 'Maths' which will take you to all the maths units.
- Then click on Early Mathematical Experiences. Here you will find the daily maths online maths lessons.
- Please start with lesson 1 and then your child can enjoy a lesson each day.
- Each video is 10- 15 minutes long and will include some practical activities for your child to do.

However, we have found from experience that children learn in different ways and these online lessons will suit some children but not others. In this case, here are some additional practical maths activities you could do with your child at home instead.

Doing the washing

- Counting in 2s matching shoes
- Sorting by colour and size.
- Matching/ pairing up socks.
- Find four shoes that are different sizes. Can you put them in order.

Tidying up

• Encourage your child to sort their toys into groups when tidying up. Ask which group has the most least objects?

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 Tidy cutlery away and put them in the correct places in the drawer/ Sort spoons by size etc

Using the playdough

- Make numerals and shapes
- Sort shapes into groups, or order by size
- Make long and short wiggly snakes

Here's a simple recipe for playdough:

1 cup of plain flour

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon cooking oil

2 teaspoons cream of tartar

Half a cup of salt

food colouring and essences (optional)

Put all ingredients in a large saucepan, and heat slowly, stirring all the time until it forms a ball. Keep it wrapped in clingfilm or in a covered tub to stop it drying out.

Please also encourage your child to practise their counting skills. There are many opportunities to develop this at home. Here are some ideas:

• Through songs and rhymes. Please click on the link below where you can access some counting songs with accompanying videos.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-counting-songs/zn67kmn

- Your child can count to 10, holding up each finger as they count. Showing 10 fingers, they can put each finger down as they count backwards from 10.
- Practise counting to 20
- Count actions e.g. jumps, claps, hops etc
- Count objects around the home, e.g. number of windows, doors, items of clothing.
- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? How many pieces of toast have you got?
- Setting the table. Counting the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need?
- Helping with the cooking by measuring and counting ingredients.
- Roll a dice and count the dots.

Below are some links for some useful games to develop counting skills.

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Teddy Numbers

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/teddy-numbers

The Gingerbread Man Game

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/gingerbread-man-game

Underwater Counting Game

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/underwater-counting

Thank you so much for supporting your child with their learning at home. As we mentioned above, please email us if you have any questions regarding any aspect of Home Learning.

Kind regards

Mrs Mercer, Mrs Prior, Mrs Coombes and Mrs Brady