

Dear Nursery Parents,

Please see a list of different learning ideas that you can continue with your children at home during the school closure period, in response to Corona virus COVID - 19.

Communication and Language & Reading:

- Sing Nursery rhymes - Nursery rhymes tell a story.
- When reading with your child, make sure they have understood the text by asking them questions. For example: What happened in this story? How do you think the character was feeling? What do you think is going to happen next? What would you do?
- Retell stories - Encourage children to retell familiar stories, or to make up their own words to new stories. Encourage children to use pictures as clues for what is happening in the story.
- Developing an understanding of rhyme;
- Hears initial sounds in words- e.g. Apple starts with the sound 'ah'

Physical Development and getting ready to write:

Before children are able to write they need to develop their fine and gross motor skills.

Below are some ideas of things you can try at home:

Gross motor:

- Go to the park if possible
- Gymnastics and trampolining
- Bikes and trikes
- Dancing
- Obstacle courses
- Painting with rollers on large sheets of paper
- Brushing and mopping with large brooms and mops
- Playing catch with balloons

Fine Motor:

- Playdough and clay
- Threading
- Cooking
- Sewing
- Painting and finger painting
- Sand and water play
- Building (small lego is particularly good for finger strength)
- Collaging using spreaders or glue sticks, and tearing or snipping paper

Once the muscles are fully developed children will be more adept at using pens and pencils. The children will develop their own grip and it is important not to constantly 'correct' it but to guide children carefully to feel more comfortable holding a pencil.

Children should practise:

- Mark making with a range of materials.
- Hearing initial sounds in words- e.g. Apple starts with the sound 'ah'
- Holding a pencil correctly with a tripod grip.
- Practise writing their name- using upper and lower case letters as they should be written.

Maths:

- Explore and investigate numbers in the environment.
- Count objects with one to one correspondence.
- Recognise and order numbers to 10.
- Practise writing numerals.
- Singing number songs rhymes or tell stories that have a mathematical content to help children understand number systems