



Writtle Infant School

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A very special place, where learning has no limits.

Headteacher: Mrs. Helen Castell | **Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs. Tracey Wilson

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Hello everyone,

We wanted to let you know how we in Foundation Stage will be supporting you with home learning.

We will be communicating through Tapestry each day. We will be sending activities to do at home linked to phonics, maths and topic based learning linked to our Poetry Basket. We will also be sending ideas of fun family things to do, to keep you going!

We will be posting videos for phonics for you and your child to watch and also hoping to meet up via Google Meet once or twice a week. We will give you instructions on how to access this, a ParentMail will be sent from the office staff.

Please make sure you can log on to Tapestry and Bug club. We will keep an eye on the amount of Bug Club books you have. Please continue to only read a maximum of 2 books a week as there isn't an exhaustive list. Make sure you keep reading at home, 'real' story books are so important too. The 'Oxford owl' website is a really good one for you to access stories and reading books if you want more. You can sign up for free and look for the free e-books. Here is the link: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>

You have your child's words and sounds folder at home. Please go through them as we have each week, only a few at a time. Can you highlight the ones they are working on and tick when they know them please. As usual please keep going over the old words and sounds too. We would really appreciate it if you could upload photos to Tapestry of your child's words and sounds once a week.

We have also uploaded the Spring Term Poetry Basket booklet into 'Documents' on Tapestry. You can access these and 'Memos' through the browser version of Tapestry not the app.

Please look each day on Tapestry. We will put the whole week on to help you plan your week but we will repeat the day's activities the evening before to make it easy to find them. This week, however, the home learning will be added on Monday afternoon.

Please don't feel it is necessary to replicate a school day although a routine may be helpful for you. At school we try to have long periods of play sprinkled with times we get together to have focussed learning times. An example might be: Start the day with a phonics activity then play... Before lunch practise handwriting. After lunch a short maths session then play, then at the end of the day story time. Each session should be about ten minutes long. This however is only a guide and do what fits in with your family routine. You might want to do 'work' in the morning and play in the afternoon. Don't forget children still need to be outside getting fresh air. For those who cannot go outside, find ways to be as active as possible within the home.

Our values: Honesty, Independence, Perseverance, Inclusivity, Politeness
School documents can be printed, translated, or made available in alternative formats (e.g. large print), on request.



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Our Advice is:

Trust your child

Embrace boredom and let your child work through it. (for some it will truly be hard work.) Understand that you do not need to entertain your child.

Remember that the parts of child led play that make adults most uncomfortable are generally the most beneficial parts. Do not solve every problem for them, don't stop their bickering, let them test various social and debate techniques. Basically bite your tongue!

Embrace the fact that child-driven play IS learning, it is not a waste of a child's time.

Adults directing child's play can be a waste of time and harmful if overdone.

Remember too, that this is a stressful time for you and your child.

Your children will need you to be calm and take control during this time. They will need lots of cuddles, stories and reassurance. Try not to worry about them falling behind at school. They cannot learn while stressed so that must be your primary concern. Although these are strange times your child may very well remember them as the best of times.

Please keep in contact with us and if you are finding it hard, or have any suggestions. The best way to contact us is through Tapestry as we can both see the messages. Mrs Giles will be supporting you with home learning this week as Mrs Fisk will be in class with the Key Worker children and vice versa next week. Our wonderful Teaching Assistant team will be ringing the Squirrels parents this week and the Foxes parents next week to keep in touch. They can pass messages onto us too.

Best wishes,

Mrs Fisk and Mrs Giles