Stamford Green
Primary School and Nursery

Dear Parents/Carers,

Nursery Weekly Information – w/b 9.11.26

Skill this week

This week we are working on the Nip, Flip, Grip method when holding a pencil.

See below for more information.

Morning routine

Please make sure that your child is on time in the morning. The Gate opens at 8.40. When we get the children into Nursery we start our day straight away. It disrupts the children's learning and makes other children unsettled when we have to leave them to let latecomers in. Many thanks.

Thank you

Thank you for coming to our Nursery Family Breakfast and to our PCTCs. It was great to catch up with you. We look forward to meeting with the rest of you on Thursday for our next PCTC evening.

PTA Non-Uniform Day

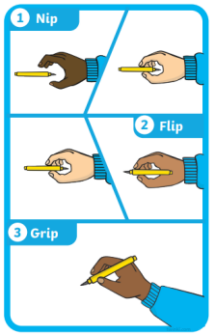
On Friday 20 November, children can come in to school in their own clothes for a donation of a chocolate bar for the PTA Christmas Fair tombola.
Please make sure either school shoes, trainers or boots are worn.

This week we are:

- Reading Dear Zoo and our new special books for this half term.
- Finding out about Remembrance Day and creating a field of poppies.
- Making different animal enclosures using magna-tiles and building blocks.
- Developing our gross motor skills by drawing large poppies on the ground with chalk.
- Moving our bodies like different animals.
- Learning some new songs, ahead of our Christmas performance.
- Focusing on sharing toys with others.
- Snipping paper with scissors.

Our skill of the week

This week we are working on how to hold a pencil correctly. In school, we use the Nip, Flip, Grip method. See the photo below.



Whilst it is developmentally appropriate for children to change their hand preference at two, they will soon begin to show hand dominance. When children pick up their mark making tools, it is important for us to prompt them to hold their pencil using the correct grip. Once they have learned how to hold a pencil correctly, it will become an automatic skill. As children get older, a good pencil grip will support good handwriting and will reduce writing fatigue.

For a child to have strong finger muscles and good fine motor control, there are lots of things we can encourage children to do. Simple ideas include; using Duplo or Lego to stack bricks, using tweezers to move small objects, threading beads onto string, peg boards

or even playing with playdough. These activities will improve hand strength and dexterity and are essential pre-writing building blocks.

Number of the week

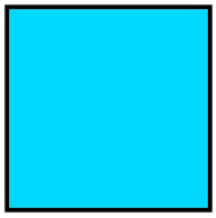
We are learning about the number four!
Where have you seen 4 before?
Can you show 4 fingers? (3 and 1) And a different 4 fingers? (2 and 2) Or on the other hand?
What comes before 4? What comes after it?







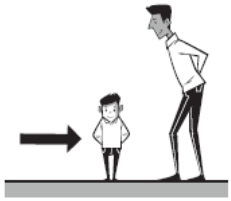


Word Aware

This week's concept works are:

Swans concept word of the week: **short**



Activities at home: Cut various lengths of paper strips. Compare them and identify which ones are short. Sharpen some pencils and talk about which ones are short and not short.

Cygnets concept word of the week**: little**



Activity at home: find a small bag. How many **little** things can you find to put in it?

You can help your child to learn the concept of the week by carrying out the suggested activities above.

Handy Hints

Sleeping Routines:

Having a good bedtime routine is essential for healthy sleep and development. Stick to a time that you aim for your child to be in bed by. Most children around this age have a bed time of between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. Any later than this may suggest that your child is ready to drop their nap (if they still have one).

- Create a comfortable atmosphere that helps your child relax.
- Be consistent so that your child knows the bedtime routine.
- Avoid caffeinated drinks such a hot chocolate before bed as these may keep your child awake and stimulate their bladder.
- Ensure your child uses the toilet prior to bed to avoid night-time wetting.
- Tidy toys to ensure the bedtime is not too inviting to play.
- Remind your child about why sleep is important and how it helps them to be happy and kind the next day.
- Limit the amount of screen time during the day, and try to make sure it is stopped at least two hours prior to your child's bedtime.
- Ensure your child has plenty of fresh air and exercise during the daytime.
- Let your child know you are around, cleaning and organising for the next day. For some children, the comfort of hearing you around the house can help. For others, you may have to try a gradual retreat from their room as they build confidence to sleep independently.
- If you are in the process of trying to drop the nap, you can reduce the nap so that they have a shorter nap during the transition OR you could try and nap on some days and not on others.

Have a great week.

Mrs Herman, Nursery Teacher and Leader of Learning
and Mrs Wilson, Nursery Room Leader