

Locks Heath Infant School - Parent / Carer Remote Learning Communication

Year Group Bulletin – Learning opportunities in my year group

Year Group: Early Years	Term: Spring 1 Monday 11th January 2021
SMSC focus: Cora the cultural caterpillar is helping us to learn about how we are all different and celebrate our differences, and helping us to find out about how different people live their lives.	Learning Value: Seeking to find out

Whole School Assembly:

Seeking to find out– Click [HERE](#) to watch Mr Jump’s assembly and reflect upon the key messages for this week. Please scroll down to the Assembly section of the videos from the link.

Videos to support teaching and adult led sessions

Please be aware that videos will be uploaded to your Tapestry account where there is an adult led input. Please look out for email updates to indicate that videos are ready to be watched with your child.

Our Early Years’ Promise Focus

We promise to be respectful of our classroom and each other.

While we are at home it is important to treat our homes, toys, and families with the same respect we have for our classrooms, resources, and friends. When we show each other kindness, understanding and respect, other people treat us the same way.

Academic - Maths Ideas:

Main Maths

Session 1:



With your child, please look at the “Comparing groups – which group has more or less” PowerPoint on Tapestry. Today we are going to be comparing groups of objects. We will be using the words more and fewer. More means there is a bigger number of objects. Fewer means there is a smaller number of objects. We are going to enter Teddy’s toy shop today, and compare the groups of objects to see which one has more, and which one has fewer objects.

Session 2:



With your child, please look at the ‘Comparing groups to 10 – toy shop’ PowerPoint on Tapestry. Today we are going back to the toy shop to compare groups of objects up to 10. We will be using the words more

- Make a hopscotch.
- Hide number cards around the house and go on a number hunt.
- Make a garage or stable for your toy cars/trains/animals. Take turns adding some in and take them away, saying how many you have left each time.

Academic - Literacy Ideas:

Writing Focus:



This week, with the weather being so cold, we are continuing our theme of Winter. Please see Tapestry for some winter stories read by some of the Early Years teachers. Have you seen any signs of winter? You might like to draw a picture of it and label it using your phonics sounds, or write a caption such as “It is a...” or “I can see...” You might like to look at last week’s ‘Signs of Winter’ PowerPoint on Tapestry for some ideas. Our stories this week have the theme of friendship. Which one of our learning values do you think the characters are showing? You might like to try writing about your favourite part of each story and why.

Learning to write through play

It is so important to build up the muscles that help us write. We can do this by moving our bodies and making our bodies strong. On Tapestry you will find a guide called ‘Fine motor skills information’ with activities you can do at home to make our writing muscles strong.

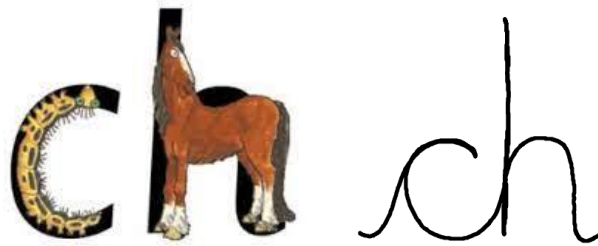
At this stage of the year, we would expect children to be experimenting with mark making, recognise some familiar letters (such as the letters in their name) and attempt to write them. You might encourage your child to:

- ‘Write’ (make marks and symbols) using pens, pencils, crayons, chalks and practise the letters they are learning.
- Make big, gross motor movements that strengthen the shoulder muscles used for writing later on, for example, sweeping with a broom, riding a bike or trike, using a paintbrush and water to “wash” the windows / garden fence.
- Work on their fine motor skills and strengthen their hand and finger movements by playing with playdough, pegging washing on a line, picking up items with tweezers, etc.
- If your child shows you some “writing” then encourage them to tell you what it says and follow it with their fingers as though they are reading it to you.
- Encourage all mark making. The more practice the better.

Now that we have started to learn new sounds in phonics we are providing lots of opportunities for children to practise their writing in the classroom. You might encourage your child to:

- Make a sound of the day book – children could stick or draw pictures starting with the correct sound and then write the letter in cursive script.
- Rainbow write – write the letter on a piece of paper and your child then writes over the top in different coloured pencils.
- Big write – using a large piece of paper, old wallpaper or in the garden, children have a go at writing the letters we have learned.

Phonics



This week we will learn the Phase 3 sound 'ch'. Phonics videos made by the Early Years teachers demonstrating this are available on Tapestry. We will look at how to say the sound, the action, how to read it and how to write it in our school writing. You may also wish to look back through previous phonics videos to revise the sounds we have already learnt.

Please check your child's 'Tapestry' to recap on the previous phonics demonstrations. In our phonics sessions we:

- Hear the sound - look at the pictures. What sound are we learning today?
- Look at it – in print and cursive handwriting.
- Say it – using the cued articulation action alongside.
- Use our magic finger to trace the sound in the air and on paper.
- Practise it – work on writing the letter correctly using cursive handwriting. We always start our letters on the line, and leave a flick at the end.

Reading – Bug Club



Please log onto Bug Club to access your child's reading books online in their appropriate book band.

Each week we will be reading a different 'big book'. This is a story that we read every day so that the children become familiar with the text and this gives us the opportunity to focus on different aspects of the

book each time we read it. Try reading a story more than once with your child at home and each time you might like to look at the following:

- The title – this is the name of the story and it has letters and words.
- The difference between the writing and the illustrations.
- Find the different sounds we have been learning.
- Use your 'reading finger' to point to the text you are reading.
- Talk about what is happening in the pictures
- Talk about what happened at the beginning of the story and the end.

Reading links to resources:



The Oxford Owl website has a large online library of e-books that you can access by registering for a free account.

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=Age+4-5&level=&level_select=&book_type=&series=#

PE activities

As an introduction to our PE sessions it is important to make our core muscles strong and to continue to develop our gross motor skills. Please find the document titled 'Gross motor activities to practise at home' for some ideas to develop these skills.

Outdoor Learning/Forest Explorers



It is so important for our bodies and minds to get out for daily exercise. While you are out and about, why not see what you notice about nature? We are learning all about Winter at the moment. Can you see any ice or icicles? Are there any snowdrops popping up yet? Is it cold enough to pretend to be an ice dragon and breathe out icy breath? You might like to collect some evergreen leaves and see if you can freeze them in water overnight to make "ice muffins."

Please remember to let the teacher know about some of the things your child has done. Please send us any photos and comments about your child's learning at home via your Tapestry account.