



The Winchester School



Family Learning Newsletter (Foundation Stage 2) – May 2025

Area of learning	Focus	Home activities/How can you help your child at home	Useful website
Communication and Language	<p>Listening and attention Hold conversation when engaged in back-and forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.</p> <p>Understanding Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.</p> <p>Speaking Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about why it is important to pay attention by looking at and listening to others when they are speaking. Encourage your child to take turns while engaging in back-and-forth interactions. This can most likely happen during everyday situations like having a bath, walking to the park, or getting ready for bed. It gives your child the opportunity to take the first turn about something that interests him/her, and allows you to respond to what has captured his/her attention.</p> <p>Role Playing: Engage in role-playing where you and your child take turns being the teacher or peer. Practice asking questions, responding to answers, and taking turns in the conversation. Encourage open communication: Create a safe and supportive environment where your child feels comfortable expressing themselves and sharing their thoughts and feelings. This can help build their confidence in holding conversations with others. For Ex: Encourage your child to pretend to be astronauts traveling to the moon and stars.</p> <p>Encourage your child to create stories that have a clear beginning, middle, and end ask them to retell the story in their own words. Model how to use past tense to describe what happened in the story, and introduce simple future tense to talk about what might happen next. Ask questions like Who was your favorite character? Can you think of another way the story could have ended? Encourage your child to reflect on their thoughts and feelings about the story.</p>	<p>Listening and understanding</p>

<p>Be flexible and open to change.</p>		<p>listen carefully to feedback from you and teachers and help your child to take steps to act on feedback and show he/she is learning. Help your child to embrace new opportunities and changes.</p>	
<p>Physical Development</p>	<p>Fine Motor Skills: Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases</p> <p>Gross Motor Skills Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to pinch, roll, and shape playdough using their thumb, index, and middle fingers. Let them pick up small objects (pom-poms, beads) with tweezers or peg clothes onto a line. Use push pins to create simple designs, strengthening finger muscles. Have them trace over lines, zigzags, and loops using a marker or crayon.</p> <p>Encourage colouring with small broken crayons to naturally encourage the tripod grip. Guide your child to draw simple pictures and patterns.</p> <p>Encourage your child to navigate around obstacles, such as cushions or toys, safely while being mindful of themselves and others. Talk to them about how to move carefully, taking turns and considering the space around them. Share a fun activity like an obstacle course, where they can crawl, jump, and balance, helping them practice these skills in a playful way. Reinforce the importance of safety and respect for space during the activity, and celebrate their efforts when they manage to move confidently and safely.</p>	<p>pencil grip</p>
<p>Specific Area Literacy</p>	<p>Reading Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound blending.</p> <p>Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.</p> <p>Stories Owl Babies by Martin Wadell Whatever Next by Jill Murphy How to catch a star by Oliver Jeffers Papa! Please get the moon for me by Eric Carle</p>	<p>Share and read words and simple books. Provide varied texts and encourage your child to use all their skills including their phonic knowledge to decode words.</p> <p>Encourage your child to find out complex words using dictionaries and newspapers. Provide varied texts and encourage your child to use all his/her skills including their phonic knowledge to decode.</p> <p>Share and read books and information about day and night animals, stars and planets. Ask them to share their opinions about living in space. Encourage your child to make up their own stories looking at Picture books or books with simple words and sentences.</p>	

	<p>Writing: Write recognisable letters most of them which are correctly formed.</p> <p>Jolly Phonics – Recap of letter sounds Recap of (ch, sh, th, th, qu, ou, oi) (ue, er, ar). Phase 2,3 High frequency words (Mr, looked, made, your, came, saw, Mrs, don't, asked, very, make, put) Phase 3 High Frequency Words (be, we, me, she, he, you, are, her, was, all, they, my, will, now, them, down, see, too, look, then, with, this, for, that)</p>	<p>Provide a range of opportunities to write for different purposes about things that interest them. Provide word banks, notebooks, clipboards, post it and other writing resources for both indoor and outdoor play.</p> <p>Encourage your child to write High Frequency words and frame sentences for them. Make story books and encourage them to share with friends or read to- them. Provide a range of opportunities to write for different purposes about things that interest your child.</p> <p>Encourage your child to write the words by sounding out. Find things with the letter sound of letters ch, sh, th, th, qu, ou, oi) (ue, er, ar). Find the sounds in books and magazines and highlight the words. Practice writing and reading High Frequency words by look say, cover, write and check. Model and encourage your child to read simple words by sounding out the letter sounds and blending them to make simple words.</p>	
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>Number Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.</p> <p>Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than</p>	<p>Encourage your child to make up their own story problems and solve. Ex: My mum gave 2 chocolates and my dad double of 2, how many chocolates my dad gave to me? Help your child to understand that five fingers on each hand make a total of ten fingers altogether, or that two rows of three eggs in the box make six eggs altogether.</p> <p>Encourage your child to make up their own story problems on doubling for other children to solve. For example, roll two dice and ask your child to double the number of dots on one of the dice. This can be a fun game to encourage competition and learning at the same time.</p> <p>Encourage your child to create their own story problems involving greater and less comparisons and solve them. For example, "I had 3 apples and my friend gave me 5 more apples, how many apples do I have now?" or "There are 7</p>	<p>Number Bonds</p>

	or the same as the other quantity.	ducks in the pond, but 3 fly away. How many ducks are left?" Help your child understand the concept of "greater than" and "less than" by using simple objects like fingers (e.g., "Do you have more fingers than me?" or "Is 4 less than 6?"). These activities can help them practice comparing quantities in fun, everyday situations.	
Understanding the World	<p>People and communities Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.</p> <p>The Natural world Understand some important processes and changes in the Natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.</p>	<p>Talk and strengthen the positive impressions that your child has of their own cultures and faiths, and those of others in their community, by sharing and celebrating a range of practices and special events. Share information about your own family, giving your child time to ask questions or make comments. Using examples from real life and from books, show your child how there are many different families.</p> <p>Encourage your child to observe things around them. Talk about how it is different if it is on the moon. Talk about the difference between earth and the moon e.g. earth has sea, rivers, seasons, the moon has craters. Talk about Astronauts, Planets and Rockets. Show them videos of Astronauts, Planets and Rockets.</p>	
Expressive Art and Design	<p>Creating with materials: Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.</p> <p>Being Imaginative and Expressive: Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and when appropriate try to move in time with music</p>	<p>Encourage your child to make a puppet theatre and props by using recycled paper or fabric. Set up a box or basket filled with various props that relate to the characters in a particular story. Participants can select items from the box that help them embody the character they are playing. Party Time - Put on some music and have a dance party as a family.</p> <p>Encourage your child to move to the beat of the music and even come up with their own dance moves. Encourage your child to narrate their own story using their skills and explore concepts and ideas through their representations.</p>	

Coming Up Events

**International Mother's Day
International Day of Families**

**Monday 12th May
Thursday 15th May**

