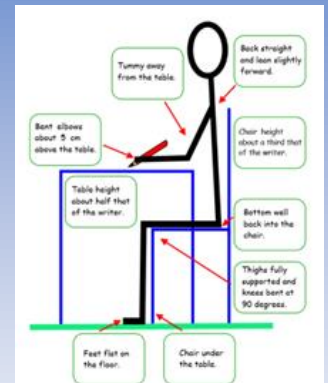


Spotlight on Phonics

I hope that many of you have been able to watch some of the videos posted regarding the Read, Write Inc. phonics scheme we have been using. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in hearing your child read at home.

This week, I am concentrating on how we use our sounds to begin to learn to spell and write. In their groups, the children are encouraged to find a good sitting position (bottoms back in chairs, holding pencil correctly and feet on the floor). Once children are confident with their letter shapes, we look at using our sounds to write words and then simple sentences.



It is always worth checking how your child is holding their pencil – and correct this every time! If your child is struggling to form their letters, please do speak to your child's teacher for some advice – or of course, feel free to approach me directly.

When we begin to spelling a simple word, we start by using our "Fred Talk". Using their own fingers, the child counts how many sounds they hear in the word and raise a finger for each sound. Then, as they say the sounds again, they pinch each finger for every sound that they hear. Only then, they attempt to write each sound in order – checking the pinched finger every time.

Fred Talk



One common issue is going in the wrong direction. To support your child, check the direction they are counting on their hand. Then, show your child where to start on the page (the left hand side) and show them how to write the sounds in order.

Finally, I cannot stress enough the importance of asking your child to read back their own writing. They need to check it themselves in order to build the link between their reading and writing. This will help your child to learn to focus on their writing and also to give them the ownership of their own writing.

Please enjoy this video which will support your understanding of learning to write.

Good luck!

Mrs Lowrey

[Click link to Read Write Inc—Parent Video—Spelling](#)