



# Parents in Partnership

Topic Tasks : Spring Week 2

Name

Topic  
Newsletter

# Happy New Year



## Thank you

Thank you to everyone for supporting the children in coming into the classroom on their own in the mornings. The children are adapting well to the new routine and are showing developing independence.

We also thank you for supporting the children in dressing independently.

Most of the children are now able to dress for PE and after PE with almost total independence. If this is an area that you know your child still struggles with, please practice this skill at home.

Could we also remind you that the children do need their school clothes, including PE kits and footwear, named, as when they are dressing themselves it is frustrating for the children when they have an item that is unnamed or also if they lose an unnamed article of clothing. PE lessons continue to be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in naming unnamed items.

## Topic news

As part of our topic work on, 'Once Upon a Time,' we have continued to use the story of Goldilocks for story telling activities, preposition and comparative language work and also as a stimulus for role play and writing.

Next week, we will be moving onto learning 'The 3 Billy Goats Gruff Story' and again will use this to help us with drama work, writing work and our understanding of prepositions and positional language.

## Maths

This week we have been working on prepositions, practical comparative measuring and positional language. To help build up your child's understanding of these concepts, perhaps you could play these practical games.

Using a teddy or similar favourite toy, you could ask your child to place the toy

above	below	on top of	underneath	beside	next to	in between
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a piece of furniture. You could also play a mix up game where you place the toy in a position and say it incorrectly, asking your child what you should have said, for example, when placing your teddy on top of the table, you could say, 'Teddy is under the table' etc...

To help comparative language you could play a game with a set of 3 different sized toys, asking your child to place them in size order. If your child copes well with this, perhaps increase the number of toys to order or deliberately place one of the toys in the wrong position and ask your child to correctly sort it. (Sets of Russian Dolls are a wonderful resource for this work.)

Please let us know how your child responded to these activities.

Thank you.

We have continued to teach the children the entry stroke to our pre-cursive script and as you work with your child, please remind them to start from the 'baseline' and to go 'up the hill' every time they form an entry stroke.

This week our focus letter has been 'c.'. This is the first letter in the 'Curly Caterpillar Group' and is quite different from those we have taught the children so far.

Please work with your child on forming this letter and use the following vocabulary,

**'Up the hill, over the top, STOP. All the way back round again and pencil off.'**

By using this language, you will reinforce our work at school and help your child form their letters.

Encourage your child to use a range of tools. If they find manipulating smaller tools difficult at this time, perhaps work with water and paintbrushes in the garden, or paint and paint brushes on large sheets of paper. Rainbow writing is also fun, so a range of colourful felt tips or colouring pencils could be used.

Thank you.

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### Tricky Words

In our phonics lessons we have continued to teach the children their tricky words.

We explain that these are words that cannot be sounded out, but that you learn by 'sight.' These are the words that we have worked on so far.

the	to	I
no	go	into
he	she	we
me	be	was
you	they	all
are	my	her
said	have	like
so	do	some
come	little	one
were	there	what

### Parents in Partnership Letters on our website

Just to let you know, if you ever misplace a Parents in Partnership newsletter, they are all available on the school website. Just go to <http://www.staugustine.s.dorset.sch.uk/website/reception/3032>

Thank you.

### Phonics and Word blending

Please note that this week we have added the letters 'ee,or and ai' to your child's phonics book. Please spend time looking at all the letters in the phonics books we have so far taught.

s	a	t	p	i	n	m
d	g	o	c	k	e	u
f	r	h	b	l	j	v
w	x	y	z	q	ch	sh
th	ng	ai	ee	or		

The words below are words containing ee,or and ai that you could help your child decode using their 'robot' arms.'

see	bee	seen	seed	deep
for	corn	fork	torn	storm
aim	sail	pain	paint	plain

Please cut off and return this slip to school. Thank you.

My child's response to the tasks.