

Helping Your Child
with Reading, Writing
Spelling and Grammar
at Home
Year 1



Reading

Reading is one of the most important things you can do to help your child succeed. Research evidence shows that your involvement in your child's reading and learning is more important than anything else in helping them to fulfil their potential.

"Parents and the home environment are essential to the early teaching of reading and fostering a love of reading; children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued" (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).



Reading aloud to your child is just as important as hearing your child read their stage book to you. We will send home library books as well as stage books to promote this. Sharing books that are beyond your child's reading ability introduces them to new vocabulary and promotes a love of reading.

Reading

At Highwoods we use the 'Read Write Inc' phonics programme for teaching early reading skills. On this scheme, the expected progress is as follows:

On entry to Year 1 - green/purple

On entry to Spring Term - pink/orange

On entry to Summer Term - yellow/blue

If your child is assessed as not meeting these expectations, we will inform you by means of a letter which will include advice of how you can help them to catch up. In school, they will be supported through intervention groups.



Reading



What sort of things do I write in the Reading Record?

The following list is not an exhaustive list but offers suggestions that may be appropriate. It is very important to remember that the enjoyment factor of reading is always worth commenting on too.

- ◇ How enthusiastic is your child about the choice of book?
- ◇ Can your child remember the story so far?
- ◇ Is your child reading using only the pictures for clues?
- ◇ Does your child understand that the words they are reading mean something?
- ◇ Can your child read words out of context, e.g. when you point to a word without reading the whole sentence?
- ◇ Is your child confident to attempt new words?
- ◇ What reading strategies is your child using e.g. phonic sounds, use of pictures, use of context?
- ◇ Can your child follow the text without using a finger or marker?
- ◇ Is there a pattern to the mistakes your child is making, e.g. words ending in 'ed' or starting with 'sh'?
- ◇ Does your child recognise their mistakes and self-correct?
- ◇ Is your child recognising many key words, e.g. the, there, your, said?
- ◇ Is your child aware of punctuation e.g. full stops, question marks, exclamation marks?
- ◇ For how long is your child able to sustain reading?

*Parents are not expected to comment on **all** of these areas after each reading session!*

Reading

Hearing your child read at home, even if it is just for 5 minutes each day, can have a considerable impact on progress. 5 minutes every day can equate to 155 minutes each month and 1,860 minutes across the year!

When you do hear your child read, please make a note of this in their reading record. We will write in reading records every time your child reads to an adult in class.



Reading

On a regular basis in class, children volunteer to verbally recommend to the whole class a book that they have read and enjoyed. Most recommendations have taken the form of a verbal presentation but can be in any form the child wishes to present. Teachers will also regularly recommend books that the children will enjoy.

To see our termly Reading Recommendation Newsletters from Highwoods, please visit: <https://highwoodsprimary.co.uk/english/> and scroll down to the 'reading recommendations' heading.



Book Change

Children visit the school library twice each week to change their stage books and their library books.



Spelling

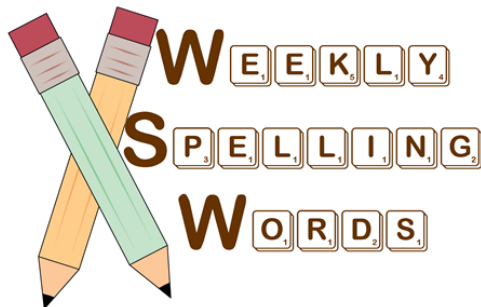
Spelling Homework

Each week, children will receive a small group of words to learn for spelling homework on <https://spellingframe.co.uk/>

Your child will not be tested on these words but they will be using these spellings for daily spelling activities in class.

Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

To see all of the spelling rules and words that your child will learn in Year 1 and beyond at Highwoods, please visit: <https://highwoodsprimary.co.uk/english/> and scroll down to the 'spelling' heading.



Spelling

In the Spring Term, if we have concerns that your child will not reach the expected level at the end of Year 1, we will send home an extra spelling support pack. Details of this will follow if and when necessary.

On the next page are the spellings your child will receive over the course of the year as homework. They cover our Highwoods expectations for high frequency words in Year 1.



Year 1 Autumn 1	of, to, is, that, the, my, by, then, with, has, his, her, go, do, so, me, be, he, we, she, us, help
Year 1 Autumn 2	they, this, see, go, some, have, are, take, see, one, two, three, all, call, you, saw, for, out, was, went, I'm
Year 1 Spring 1	them, from, said, back, old, too, off, will, our, time, like, made, make, were, what, look, could, four, five, Mrs, Mr, I'll, don't
Year 1 Spring 2	little, there, down, into, came, live, away, next, new, after, today, when, about, come, seven, nine, now, us, last, it's, children, called
Year 1 Summer 1	their, because, once, other, very, over, put, eight, eleven, twelve, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, people, looked, your, asked,
Year 1 Summer 2	thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, Sep- tember, November, December

Handwriting in Year 1

Your child will have learnt to form their letters correctly as part of the 'Read Write Inc' lessons in the Foundation Stage. In Year 1, we continually assess children on their handwriting and any incorrect letter formation is quickly picked up on and corrected.

Please see the English section of our website for the phrases that we use when teaching letter formation, as well as guidance on the direction and starting points of letters. Please use this at home if you notice your child is struggling with letter formation as it will mirror what we are doing in class.

Year 1 is a crucial time for learning to write with correct letter formation. We also focus on pencil grip and seating positioning. Please encourage your child, whenever possible, to sit on a chair at a table when writing at home as this aids better handwriting and encourages good writing habits.



Grammar in Year 1

In Year 1, the expectation is that children will be able to understand, use and apply the following grammatical terms - see list below.

Visit <https://highwoodsprimary.co.uk/english/> and scroll down to the 'grammar' heading to view definitions and examples of each of these grammar terms.

full stop, capital letter, verb, noun, adjective, prefix, suffix, fragment, sentence, singular, plural, proper noun, question mark, exclamation mark

