

Dear Parents

We have put down some ideas for helping your child's development at home. These are by no means compulsory but are merely a few hints and suggestions from us about what you can do at home to reinforce what we do at school.

### **Mathematical Development**

**SORTING:** into tubs, circles on paper, hoops on the floor, etc.

By colour: Lego blocks, fruit and vegetables, shoes, socks, laundry.

By size: uncooked spaghetti, teddy bears, string, socks, tights, and pencils.

By type: fruit and vegetables, toys, etc.

By shape: shape blocks, paper cut outs.

### **MATCHING:**

Socks into pairs

Eggs into eggcups

Straws into cups

Shoes into pairs

Cakes to teddy bears

Knives to forks when laying the table

### **COUNTING:**

Number rhymes and songs in the bath, bedtime and in the car.

Counting out sweets, beads, fruit, and cutlery

When walking up and down stairs.

Post boxes, green cars, police cars, etc.

Pennies to buy a treat.

**NUMBERS:** looking at individual written numerals e.g. 23 would be a 2 and a 3 to a child

Spotting numbers on buses.

Numbers on car registration plates.

House numbers.

Prices in the supermarket.

### **Other things you can do/teach your child at home:**

Pull up their own underwear.

Put on their own shoes and socks.

Drink from a cup (have a go in the bath).

Blow and wipe their own nose.

Learn their address.

Cooking.

Tidying up their toys.

Putting their coat on.

### **FINE MOTOR SKILLS:**

These activities are to help strengthen your child's fingers and improve their dexterity in preparation for writing.

If your child is holding a pencil please check that he/she has the correct grip.

We advise that you spend no longer than 5 minutes on an activity to ensure that your child stays focussed and benefits from the exercise.

### **THREADING ACTIVITIES:**

Shoe laces into shoes

Pasta / cotton reels / buttons / beads - anything with a hole! Onto wool / string.

### **PINCHING ACTIVITIES:**

Clothes pegs on a washing line, edge of box, etc - taking off and putting on.

Fingers / tweezers / tongs picking up small beads, beans and putting them into a pot.

Peg puzzles.

Fastening zips, buckles, belts and poppers.

Squeezing water out of a turkey baster.

Taking lids off and putting them on jars and boxes.

### **POSTING ACTIVITIES:**

Old cards into a shoebox with a hole.

Toys through the banisters

**SPOONING ACTIVITIES:**

Using different sizes of spoons to spoon dried pasta / pulses / beads / buttons / rice into pots and pans.

**POURING ACTIVITIES:**

Pouring water from jugs / cups / jars and tubes (in the bath unless you are feeling brave).

Pouring uncooked rice / pasta / pulses / beads etc. from jugs.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

Cutting up old Christmas and birthday cards.

Painting - large and small scale (they can use water and a paint brush and paint onto the outside of the house, pavement, etc.)

Sticking.

Chalkboards.

Colouring and drawing.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask.

Clare, Vanessa and Kim