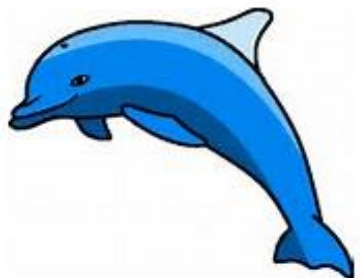
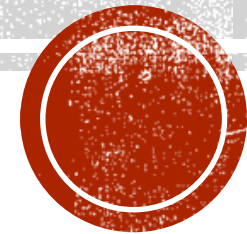




Y1 Writing Meeting 2024

Tigers and Dolphins





The link between *reading* and *writing*

Research shows a clear connection between those that read lots and their confidence and ability in writing.

- When a child becomes familiar with lots of stories, they then begin using this language in their own writing.
- Reading allows a child to become familiar with all the things we ask of them in their writing: **capital letters, finger spaces** and **full stops**.
- Words become easier to write and spell when a child is seeing them more often through their reading. The more you see something, the more likely you are to remember it!
- Children can develop a love of stories through reading and build a desire to branch out and try their own, creating a new writer through reading!
- Using school resources that have been sent home, such as the sound chart, can help in building confidence with reading and recognising words.



Barriers To Writing At Home

There are lots of different reasons to feel that you can't have a go at home (we've listed a few below), but we want to reassure that it's definitely possible to give your child a hand and really make a difference to their learning!



No time to fit in writing practice with a busy household



We don't have any of the materials we need to write!



I'm not trained to teach my child how to write.





Gross and Fine Motor skills



Skills that most of us as adults take for granted but that many children at this age are still developing. These have a huge impact on a child's ability to write.

Fine Motor Skills:

- Muscles in the fingers, hand and wrist
- These control the detailed movements needed when gripping a pen or being very delicate/precise when holding something.

Improved by:

- Hand strengthening through things like play-dough or hand exercises.
- Small/precision toys like Lego, beading or using tweezers or scissors.
- More practice writing and mark-making (these can be pens, pencils, crayons, paintbrushes of different sizes/widths!). Please encourage your child to hold what they're using correctly.

Gross Motor Skills:

- Larger muscles in the body that control bigger movements.
- Moving arms, shoulders, torso all impact writing.

Improved by:

- Practicing sitting up straight when writing.
- Larger body movements to develop co-ordination, especially those that cross the middle of the body.
- Strengthen these large muscles with play and general activity (jumping, throwing, catching, and any big movements/games).

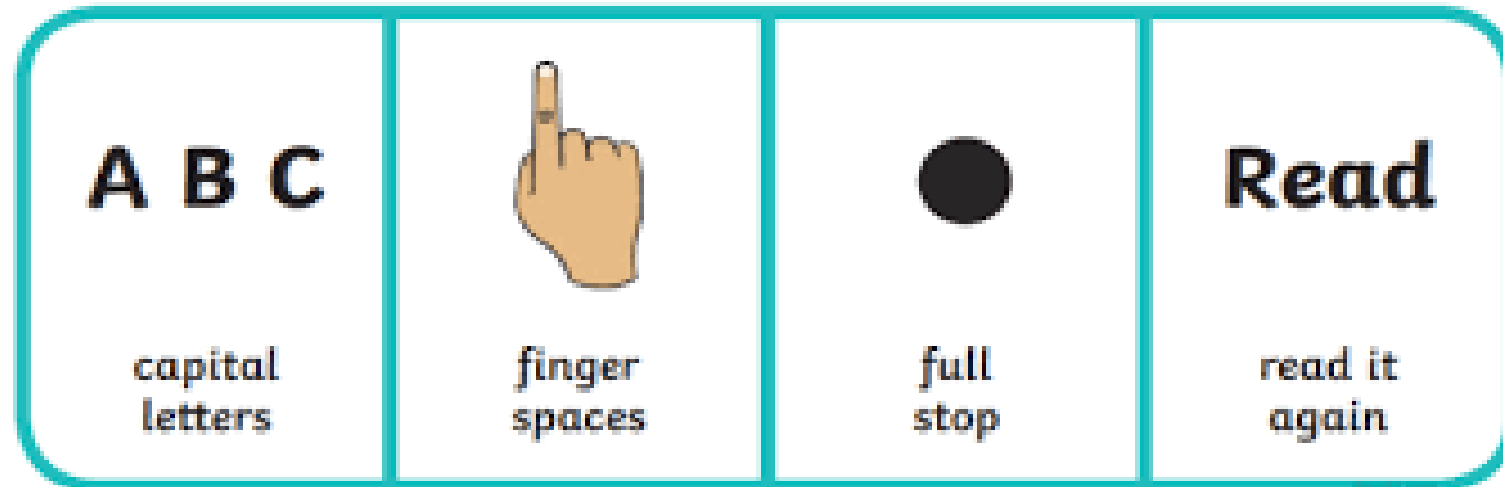


Y1 'Non-Negotiables'!

- Finger spaces

- Capital letters

- Full stops





Writing with a *Purpose!*



We want you to try bringing writing into your everyday life with your child. If you make the writing purposeful, children will see a reason to use it and may begin to enjoy developing this skill.

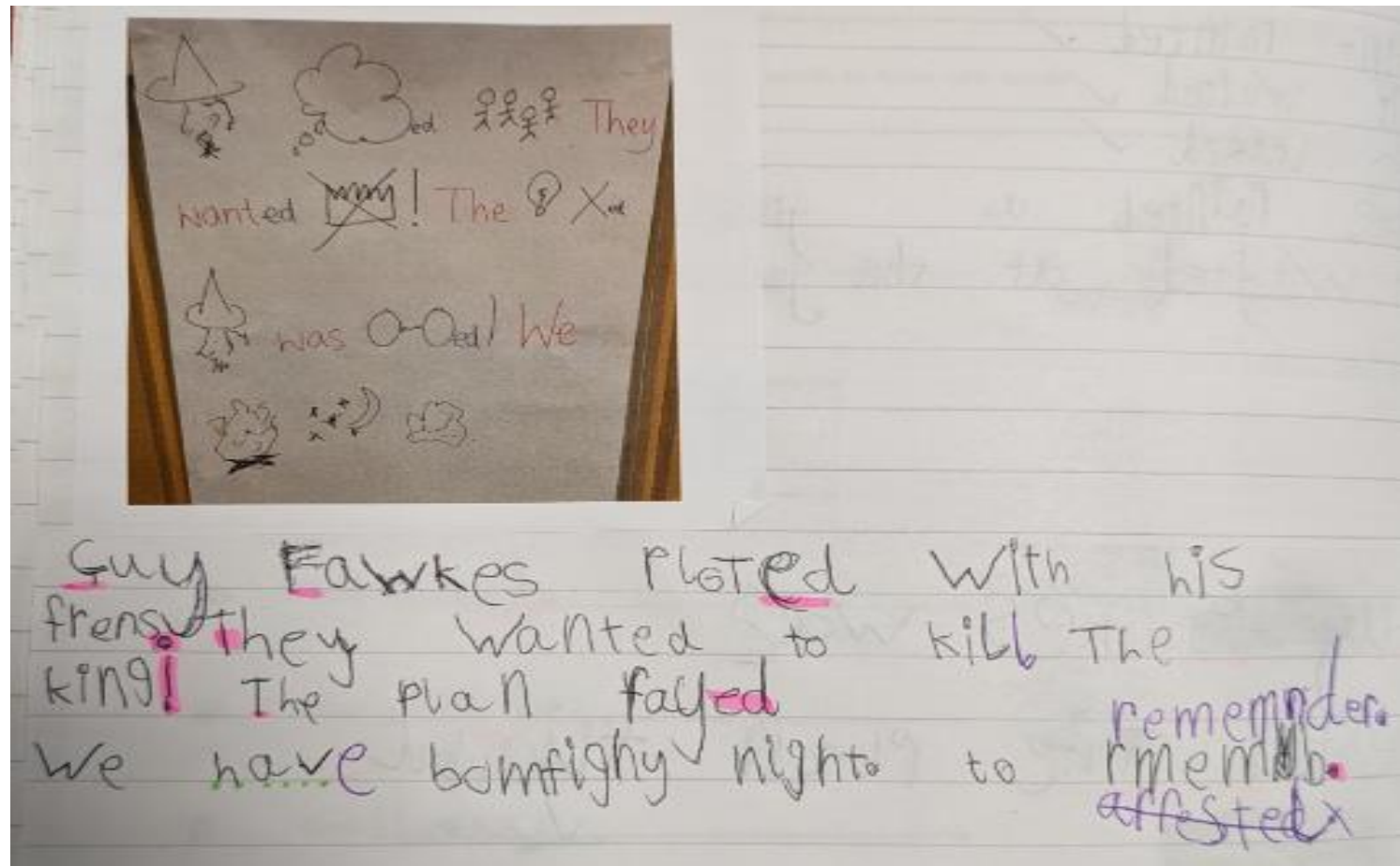
Super ways to use writing:

- If you write a (shopping) list, let them have a go at sounding out and writing the words.
- Let your child have a go at writing things like emails, postcards, or letters.
- Birthday and Christmas cards are a super way to let them show off to others and give a personal touch.
- Set challenges to them – can they write down one thing they enjoyed today? What is something they are looking forward to?
- Using magnetic letters on your fridge to make words!



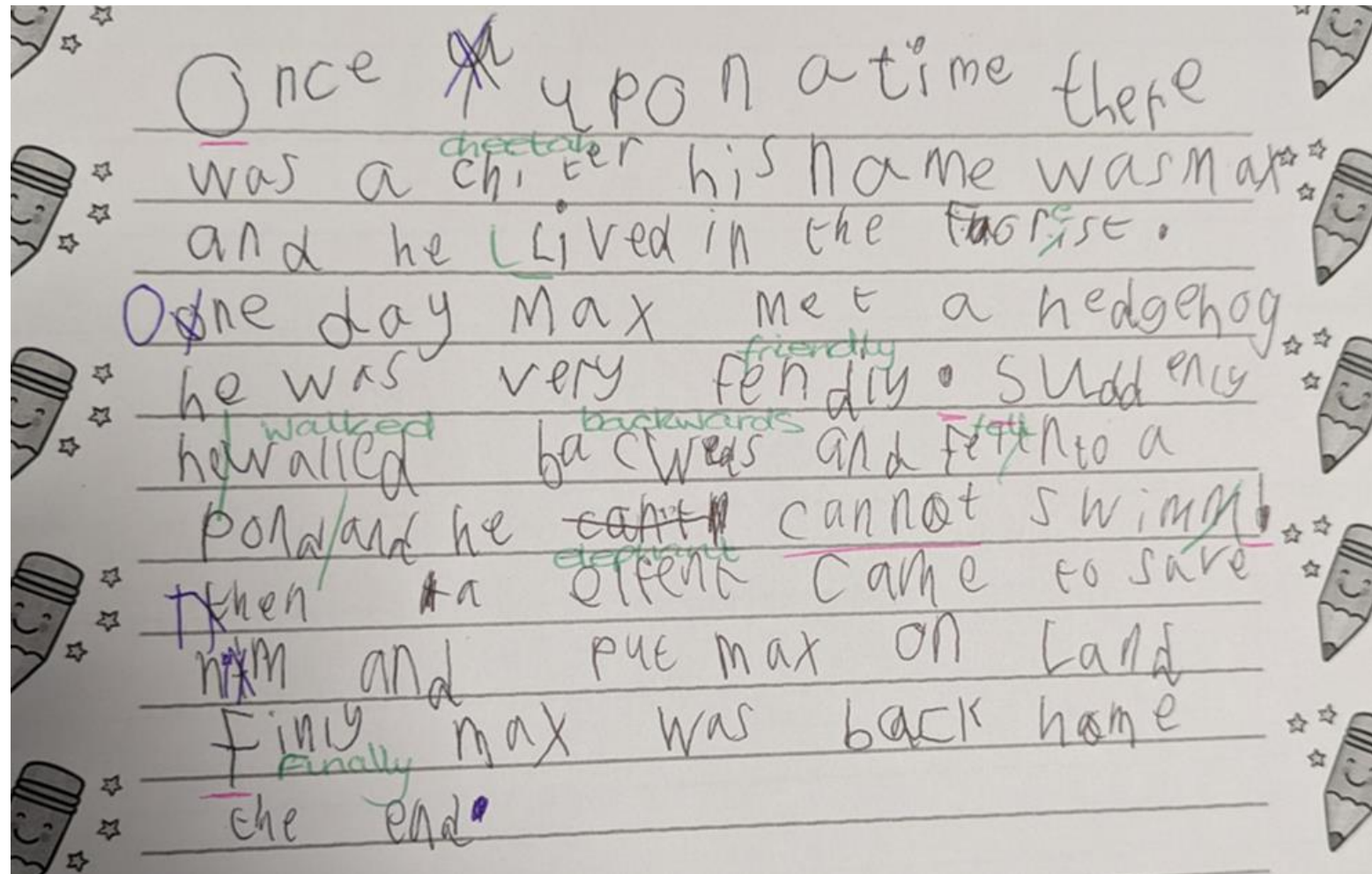
Our aim for writing in Y1 by Christmas

Below is an example of writing from several years ago which shows the level we would hope all children will reach by the end of Autumn term (Christmas).



Our aim for writing in Y1 Summer Term

Below is an example of writing from several years ago which shows the level we would hope all children will reach by the end of the Summer term.





How to build writers at home



All amazing writers will make mistakes and need to make changes. This is also true of new writers who are applying lots of skills in order to get their ideas on paper.

Super ways to use writing:

- At this stage in their learning journey, children benefit from feeling successful with their writing!
- Children should be using what they have learnt in phonics to make a good try to sound out the word they are attempting to write.
- Children may:
 - Miss sounds within words.
 - Use sounds that sound the same but are a different spelling e.g naym – name
 - Children may start writing and forget what they are trying to write!
 - Children may also forget the beginning or ending sound in a word e.g. ad – sad





What writing looks like in a classroom



the fog lIcs the fligh

Talking points

While writing:

- Ask your child to say their sentence to you before and as they write. Encourage them to check if it makes sense.
- 'What should come at the beginning of every sentence?' (Capital letter)
- Ask them to sound out each word using Fred Fingers (putting one finger up for each sound – this should help them to count how many sounds they will need as well as working out what the sounds are).
- Then write one word at a time, while remembering/ saying aloud the whole sentence.
- Once finished ask your child to read the whole sentence and check they have all the words.
- Then encourage them to use a full stop to show the sentence is complete.





What writing looks like in a classroom



the fog lIcs the fligh

Talking points

After writing

- Congratulate your child for their super effort! They have remembered their sentence, it makes sense and they have carefully sounded out the words.
- All phonetic attempts at spelling should be celebrated even if a different spelling of the same sound is used.
- Please do pick up the incorrect use of capital I within words as I is a Red Word and not a sound.





Other ideas



Focus on spelling – This is easier if you dictate a sentence so your child only needs to think about the spelling.

Focus on handwriting - Your child could copy a sentence you have written or practice their weekly spellings. If your child needs help with letter formation there are letter formation Apps that you could use at home. Writing Wizard which we use in school also has a free version on the Play Store.

Focus on fun! - Any extra writing you are doing at home should be fun.

- Use paint and paint brushes to practice letter formation
- Magnetic letters to practice spelling
- Felt tips / coloured pen/ coloured paper.
- Write letters and take a photo to send instantly to friends or relatives and get a reply.

Remember writing is often more fun when done for a purpose and getting a reply is exciting!

