

**Crestwood Park
Primary School**



**Helping your child
with writing.**



RECEPTION.

- ◆ Encourage children to sit at a table, holding a pen/pencil comfortably and correctly. We do not want writing to be seen as a chore! It is therefore a good idea to buy a special book or a special pen for children to use for their writing at home.
- ◆ Ask your child to use their sounds rather than simply telling them the letters to use when spelling words. This will help them to become more independent writers.
- ◆ When writing a sentence encourage your child to say it out loud first several times. (Think it– say it– write it– check it) can they count the number of words in the sentence? What was the first word in the sentence?
- ◆ After writing any sentences re-read it back to check it makes sense.
- ◆ Write sentences to describe main characters– their looks, the way they dress, the way they talk.
- ◆ Practise writing lists of words to describe characters from books they are reading. Can they collect lots of similar words eg– cross, angry, cruel, mad.
- ◆ Involve your child in writing for a purpose. For example– asking them to help you write a shopping list or birthday card.
- ◆ Write about real events, television programmes, famous people– anything your child is interested in! Choose an image/photograph/picture your child is interested in and write about it!
- ◆ Explain that we need to see capital letters at the start of every sentence. Practise writing the alphabet in both lower and upper case letters. We also use capital letters for names (proper nouns) draw children’s attention to the use of these around the environment– on signs etc
- ◆ When visiting places, collect leaflets, handouts and fliers. Then use these for children to use to create their own versions!
- ◆ Take the lead from any homework activities set in school. If your child comes home with a task linking to a specific spelling pattern or sound, encourage him/her to find even more words with this spelling and write them in their own sentences.