## **Handwriting**

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e f zg h	
i j k l	
10 10 10 10	
19 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
NU NU NUS	
X. Y Z	

In a world where technology is rapidly taking over, teaching children handwriting skills is still as important as it ever was. The new National Curriculum echoes this and by Year 6, children should have a handwriting style which is joined, clear and fluent. In our school we use a cursive style with each lower case letter starting from the line or previous letter.

## Here are some things you can do to help your child with handwriting.

- Let your child see you writing- practise the cursive writing style together. Can you critique each other's efforts? Can they teach you how to form them correctly?
- Praise them for practising. Changing habits takes time and effort and with the right support, children will want to practise more and improve.
- Ask them to help you write shopping lists, cards, invitations, notes on the fridge etc.
- Try fun activities which help them to strengthen the hand muscles e.g. cutting, painting, squeezing play dough, picking up small things with tweezers and pegs.
- Encourage diary writing and writing letters to friends and family.
- Get them writing in unusual places e.g. the mud or sand, or chalk on the outside wall. They could use different types of writing implements e.g. calligraphy pens or paintbrushes.
- Play word and sentence games e.g. writing the next line of a story, making up riddles and rhymes or silent joke telling.
- Encourage your child to put their weekly spellings into full sentences.