

Handwriting & Presentation workshop

Ofsted November 2018 said:

"Pupils are enthusiastic writers, they receive good advice on how to improve their writing. However, handwriting skills are not taught systematically. This means that pupils' work is not consistently well presented."

Examples of handwriting (Aston)

Oliver - Boy Y1 in Sept 16
N2 Mrs 06.08.16

In the holidays
I went to the
beach with my
grandparents.

✓ Brilliant
independent
spelling.

Y2

16.3.17 WAL to write a recount.



Yesterday we walked down to Holy Trinity Church, where Mr Thompson the vicar told us about his job and his church. I am going to tell you about it now.

It was a beautiful sunny morning when we walked down to Holy Trinity. My partner was Megan, Megan and I talked about how we had never been to Holy Trinity, in fact we didn't even know where it was. But when we were very close we ^{we knew} ~~dis~~passed it lots of times and we laughed so much.

When we got into the church Mr Thompson greeted us.

We sat down in the pews and he tried to guess what school we were from, however he didn't ^{exactly} ~~exactly~~ get it right until we showed him our logos. Then he told us

Friday 3rd March 2017

Y4

To write a narrative.

Surprisingly,

The courageous Traction Man is celebrating his victory over the cruel intimidating teddy bear, although he has ~~at~~ another daring mission in two minutes. His next ~~mission~~ ^{adventure} is to save some meek little spoons but to do that he needs to cross the secret deadly lab of doctor paper. Unexpectedly, on his way across he met a fascinating gold sharpener who asked, "May I help you, I won't be any trouble."

Traction Man was thinking, but just then he said, "Okay!"

Unlike any other heroes he let the ~~golden~~ sharpener do part of the mission. He was meant guide the way ~~across~~ across.

Suddenly, they came face to face with some ginormous sticky glue ~~mountains~~ mountains. Even though they were as ~~a skyscraper~~ ^{as tall as a skyscraper} huge as a skyscraper they ~~stayed~~ ^{remained} calm and came up with an ~~astounding~~ ^{amazing} plan! The idea was to get a humongous piece of string and swing ~~across~~ ^{over} ~~the~~ ^{the} colossal glue mountains. Firstly, Golden sharpener had to swing across. However before he landed Doctor Paper turned up! Rapidly, Traction man leaped ~~over~~ onto the string and roomed to save the poor sharpener. But he was too late. Doctor Paper had already got

Friday, 20th January 2017

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Task: write a balanced argument.

Should children have to wear school uniform?

Throughout recent years, many schools have introduced a new policy in which children must wear a school uniform. There has been much discussion about whether or not children should have to abide by this ruling. This raging controversy is of vital importance because the vast majority of parents have been refusing to spend extra money on schoolwear and insist upon sending their children in every day attire.

Many parents believe that these uniform policies are beneficial in many aspects. First, some adults suggest that uniforms show a sense of equality because, by wearing the same clothes, students would not get picked on for their lack of funds to buy the latest fashion. It is said that this would greatly prevent bullying in primary schools. Moreover, a large majority of parents point to the fact that by wearing uniforms, children do not have to think about what to wear to school each day which would make the child less likely to be late. Furthermore, others argue that uniforms make children look smart and they would not fail to impress any visitor. Additionally, many parents believe that uniforms are cheaper than everyday clothing and would therefore save a significant amount of money.

Alternatively, the vast majority of adults argue that children should not have to wear school uniform. First of all, many people point to the fact that teachers are allowed to wear everyday clothes and therefore, children should have equal rights. Furthermore, others believe that students should have the right to express themselves through their clothing and that school uniform limits this.

History of handwriting at Benington

- Children were taught correct letter formation with emphasis on correct grip and posture.
- The handwriting policy stated that once children could form letters correctly and consistently that they would be taught to join.
- Some letters were not joined: b, g, j, p, s, and y. These were the letters that finished with a left facing stroke.
- Handwriting lessons were incorporated into English lessons.
- In a drive to improve standards, over the last few years we have introduced a pen licence.

Why Cursive?

- Research suggests that learning a cursive handwriting style earlier, improves presentation.
- There is evidence to suggest that children with fine motor difficulties and spelling difficulties do better if they do not have to take their pencil off the page and the writing flows.
- Teaching the 'leads in' as well as the 'leads out' of letters helps children to join correctly - by the end of Key Stage 2 the expectation is that children will have a neat, joined style.
- Other small schools in the local area that have adopted the cursive format have achieved outstanding results.

Expectations in Reception

- Mark-making
- Correct pencil grip and posture
- Modelling of letter formation using magic finger in the air and knowing the starting point
- Discrete sessions planned into the curriculum as well as practise in phonics and free learning time
- As soon as letters are consistently formed correctly and of a consistent size, Acorn children may be taught 'lead ins' and 'lead outs'.

Pre-cursive

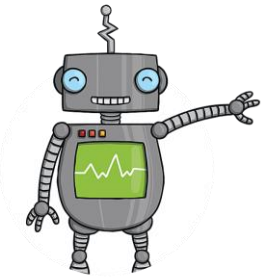
- Once children are ready they will be taught pre-cursive methods. This means letters have a 'lead in' and 'lead out' but do not actually join.
- These will be taught in groups of letters with a similar formation:



c a o d g q e s f



l i t u j y



r b n h m k p



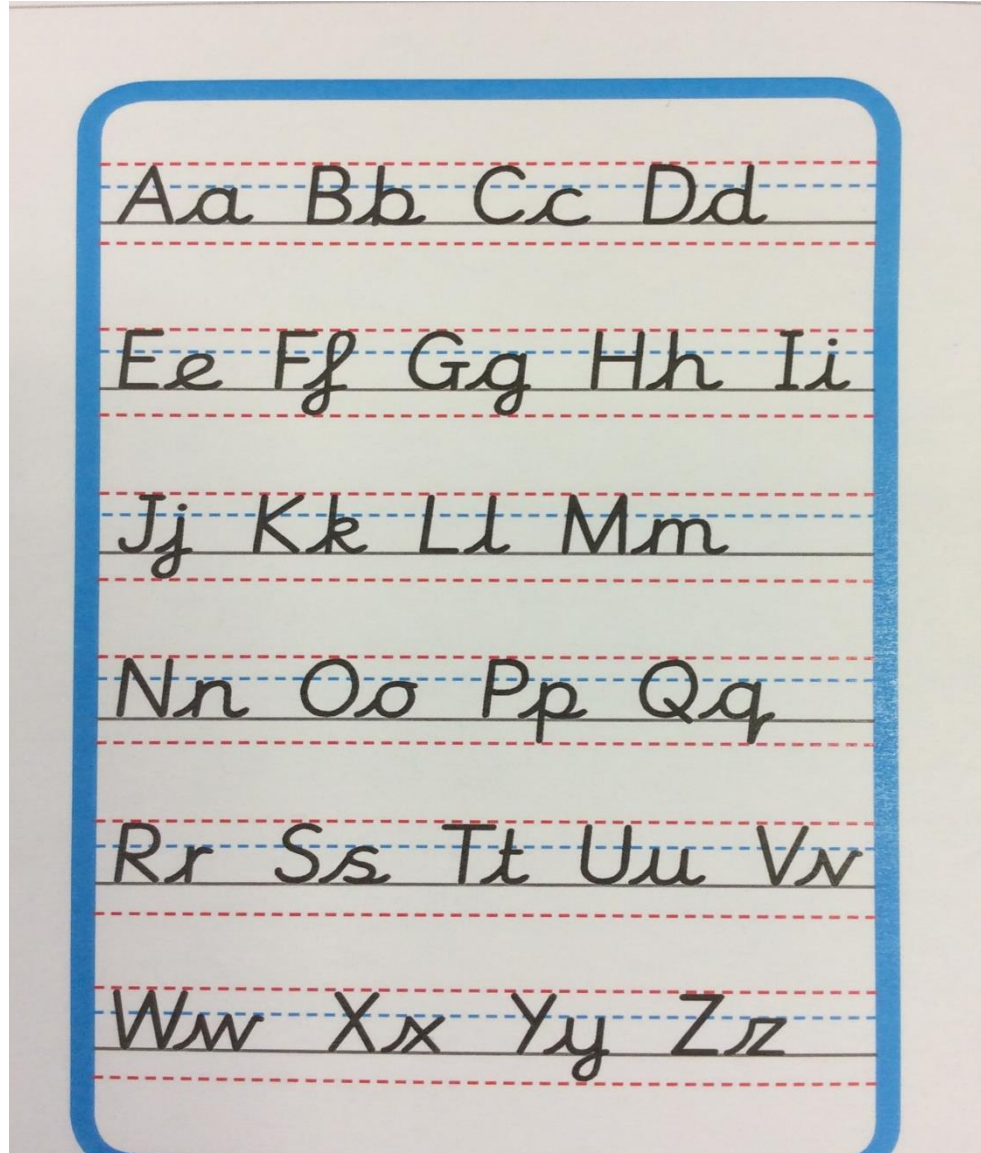
v w x z

Cursive

- The aim of cursive is that all lower case letters will join to all other lower case letters and the entry point is on the line.
- Capital letters will NEVER join
- Fully cursive handwriting helps children to develop a muscle memory of the word as well as its formation.
- This will support the learning of spellings.
- Our expectation is that fully cursive handwriting will be used across all subjects including: homework books, reading records and written in pencil until children are awarded a pen licence.

How to form letters correctly

- Now have a go!



Raising the profile of cursive writing

- Pegs of Pride
- Pen licences
- Headteacher's award
- Hexagons
- Merits
- Class rewards
- BOBs
- Showcasing work in other classes

Support that must be given at home

- Homework and reading records to be written in pre-cursive or cursive in pencil completed on a flat surface.
- Model this writing style to your child. If you do it, they will too!!!
- Encourage your child to take pride in all presentation.
- Writing for different purposes in cursive e.g. a shopping list, book review etc.
- Watch your child to ensure they have the correct pencil grip and are forming letters correctly.
- Have HIGH EXPECTATIONS!

Thank-you for coming today

Please look out for this presentation on our school website



Practise makes perfect