



Talk and Write



This year we are introducing an exciting initiative to develop oracy and creative writing, encourage parental involvement and provide further evidence to support teacher assessment of spoken language and writing.

Each term at least 2 independent tasks will be set. This will be based on styles of writing with which the children are familiar. The week before these tasks are due to be set, your child will bring home **Talk Homework** with details of the task provided and prompt questions. This homework task will not be marked but is designed for you to discuss ideas about this task with your child. If they wish, children can make notes which they can use as their planning and to assist in generating ideas, but this is not compulsory. There will be an image or a film clip to stimulate discussion. When the task is set, this image/film will also be shown in class with an opportunity to share ideas and ask questions. The stimulus will usually be the same for all children across the school so that siblings can focus upon developing vocabulary and discussion together and share ideas- writing and speaking/ listening tasks will of course be targeted at each child's stage of development.

Please do not encourage your child to complete the written task in its entirety, as they will not be able to use this in class and this may be counter productive.

How can we record ideas?

- Recording ideas is important to help your child remember them.
- Jot down key words, phrases and sentences.
- You can plan paragraphs by jotting what you will write about in each in note form or could record ideas as a spidogram- whatever works for your child.
- You could write down the ideas for your child as long as discussion has taken place to support their writing.
- **Do not** ask your child to write a draft or to complete the task as this will not be supportive to your child's independent writing progress.

Why Talk and Write? To promote creative writing and independence, to inform assessment, to consolidate learning in the classroom, to transfer and practice writing skills and to develop a love of literature and writing.

Talking to your children- developing their vocabulary and sharing ideas is the most valuable homework you can do.

The first Talk and Write task will be set week commencing 12th September. Your child will have the task fully explained to them in class and class teachers will provide more specific details. Please do speak to class teachers if you have any further questions.