

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe that we have completed a month of Home Schooling!! We hope you and your child are enjoying the activities we are preparing and the stories etc on our webpage. The 'Winter' learning topic is always very popular in Pre-School and we have missed having the children in Pre-School to share it all with them.

Our plans for Pre-School this week would have been a 'Number & Shapes Week' - building on children's knowledge and understanding of Numbers 1 - 5, recognising these, counting objects 1 - 5 and matching these to appropriate numbers, ordering numbers 1 -5 introducing basic shapes - triangles, circle, squares and rectangles. We use games, stories, rhymes, songs and activities to support children's learning - Playing games such as Number Snap, Colour Snap, Ludo, Snakes and Ladder, Number/Shape lotto games are a fun way to engage your child's interest and develop their understanding - these are all available from Amazon if you don't have them already. Counting songs such as '5 Little Monkeys Jumping On The Bed', 5 Little Speckled Frogs and 5 Little Ducks are all great fun action songs to encourage counting - all available to download from YouTube - don't forget to join in with the singing and actions with child !! Books and stories with counting involved also really engages children's interest - eg 'Ten Friendly Fish'

**Activities this week include:**

Numbers 1 - 5 Booklet - counting the objects on each page and looking at the numbers - colour the numbers and pictures

Joining the dots to make numbers 0 - 5 - and then encourage your child to copy these numbers in their Busy Books. Please let your child do this themselves - we love to see their own work.

"A Shapes Challenge" Where your child has to find objects around their home that are various shapes - Go with your child and talk about the various shapes you find.

Pipe cleaners are included in the pack for your child to use as they observe and try to make the various shapes - please ask your child to do this often and talk to them about the names of the shapes they have made and how a circle is around shape, a triangle has 3 pointy corners, a square has 4 sides all the same size and a rectangle has 2 long sides and 2 short sides.

## Cutting & Sticking Activity - Ordering numbers 1 - 5

A colour matching shapes activity sheet

A count and colour activity sheet

Playdough - Help your child to use the playdough we provided last week to make the numbers 1 - 5.

\*\*\* Lots of activities to engage in this week but please remember the counting games you play with your child, the number songs you join in with them and the number stories you read to them are going to be the best learning experience for your child.

\*\*\* Remember there is no time frame to complete the activities we send home - they are for you and your child to enjoy and experience what they would have been doing or learning about in Pre-School. We do not want to add to the pressures parents are under coping with working from home and home schooling.

\*\*\* We would be grateful if any completed worksheets and booklets can be kept and returned to Pre-School when we reopen to be added to children's folders to show their ongoing journey of learning and development in their Pre-School year. We would love to see lots of drawings and mark making/writing in their Busy Books when they return - if work could be dated and any chat from them about their work written on it that would be really helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about your child's progress or learning or if they are experiencing any difficulties that we could help with.

Best Wishes To All

Julie, Karen, Lorraine, Wendy, Joanne & Caitlin