



Headteacher: Mrs J Simpkins
B.Ed NPQH

'A caring school where every child matters' (OFSTED)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term in year one we are focussing on the children's letter formation and would appreciate your support at home with reinforcing this.

At Newburgh Primary School, we teach children to use a cursive handwriting style. We introduced this several years ago as research shows that cursive handwriting improves children's flow in writing and their self-confidence making them more natural writers. Using this style will allow children to join more fluidly and ensures they learn to spell more accurately, as they learn which letters commonly are next to each other. Furthermore, a cursive style ensures children's work is presented in a much neater way enabling them to read and edit their own work.

We have attached a copy of how the lower case and upper case letters are formed using this cursive style. Each letter starts on the line with a pre cursive join. **We ask at this time that you do not encourage the children to join their letters up.** This is something that we will teach them in school when we feel the correct formation of the letters has been mastered. Capital letters are not joined to other letters.

Children sometimes find handwriting a barrier to become a natural writer. In school, we have daily handwriting lessons, looking at how to form each letter correctly. We would really appreciate your support with this at home. Please can we ask that you encourage your child to practice their handwriting daily at home for about 5-8 minutes. This can be completed inside their spelling homework books, which we check every Friday.

When children have mastered the formation of letters and are consistently using this with their work they will be able to achieve a 'Cursive Letter Formation Licence'. This will be awarded to children in a celebration assembly.

Thank you in advance for your support on this and if you have any questions please make an appointment to speak to either myself or Mrs Turner in school.

Yours sincerely

Miss C Maisey
Lower School Leader

