**How to help your child with writing:**

* Practise and learn weekly spelling lists – make it fun!
* Encourage opportunities for writing such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories or poems.
* Write together – be a good role model for writing.
* Encourage use of a dictionary to check spelling and a thesaurus to find synonyms and expand vocabulary
* Allow your child to use a computer for word processing, which will allow for editing and correcting of errors without lots of crossing out.
* Remember that good readers become good writers! Identify good writing features when reading (e.g. vocabulary, sentence structure, punctuation).
* Show your appreciation: praise and encourage, even for small successes!

**How to help your child with reading:**

* Listening to your child read can take many forms.
* First and foremost, focus developing an enjoyment and love of reading.
* Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child at KS1 and KS2 is equally as important as listening to your child read.
* Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
* Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions. Refer back to the bookmark given out at the parent consultations.
* Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
* All reading is valuable – it doesn’t have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
* Visit the local library - it’s free!

**How to help your child with Mathematics:**

* Play times tables games
* Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards
* Encourage opportunities for telling the time
* Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money; finding amounts or calculating change when shopping
* Look for numbers on street signs, car registrations and anywhere else!
* Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home
* Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes
* Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, darts, draughts or chess, shut the box.