

## Early Years News

14th September 2018





## FINE MOTOR SKILLS

We are spending lots of time working on the children's fine motor skills, strengthening the small muscles which control the hand, fingers and thumb. Little



hands need to develop dexterity and strength so that they can hold pens and pencils correctly and ultimately write. How can you support this at home? As parents and caregivers there are lots of things you can do at home to help this process. Encouraging children to play with small toys (lego is ideal), doing their own clothing fasteners, using safe scissors and playing with play dough are all brilliant for facilitating fine motor development.





## SHAPES AND PATTERNS

In our maths this week we have been exploring shapes and patterns. Recent research has found that young children's ability to spot patterns can predict later mathematical achievement, more than other abilities such as counting.

Why not have a go at making patterns in the kitchen? You could use fruit (apple, banana,

apple, banana) or cutlery (knife, fork, spoon, knife, fork, spoon).



## **WOW SHEETS**

We are always keen to hear about your child's achievements at home. Whether it be riding a bike for the first time, getting dressed independently, joining in with a family celebration, or helping a younger sibling... we want to hear about it on a WOW sheet, please. The children love to share their successes with the class and

the contributions you make to your child's Learning Journey

are extremely important, helping us to build a full picture and what their next steps should be. WOW sheets can be found on the door outside the classroom.



Hope you have a good weekend! The Early Years Team