



## Farsley Farfield Primary School

Cote Lane, Farsley, Leeds LS28 5ED

Infants: Telephone 0113 2058133

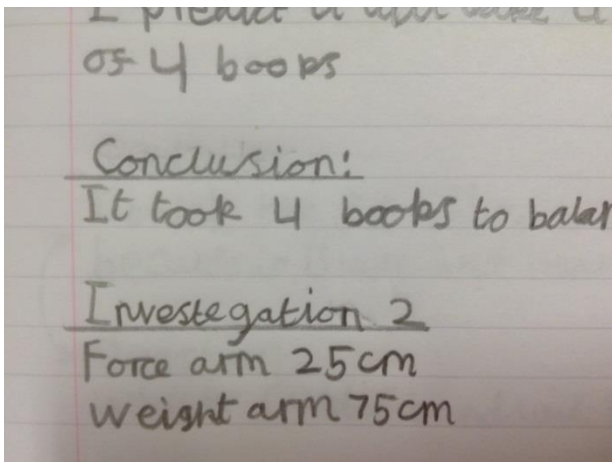
Juniors: Telephone: 0113 2058130

E-mail: [office@farsleyfarfield.org.uk](mailto:office@farsleyfarfield.org.uk)

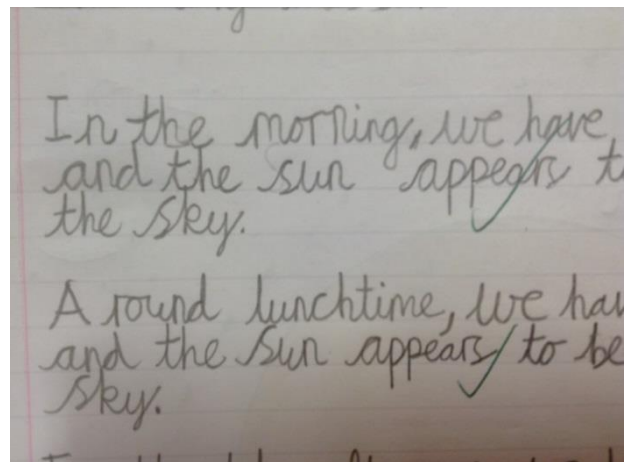
### Cursive Handwriting at Farfield

Dear parents and carers,

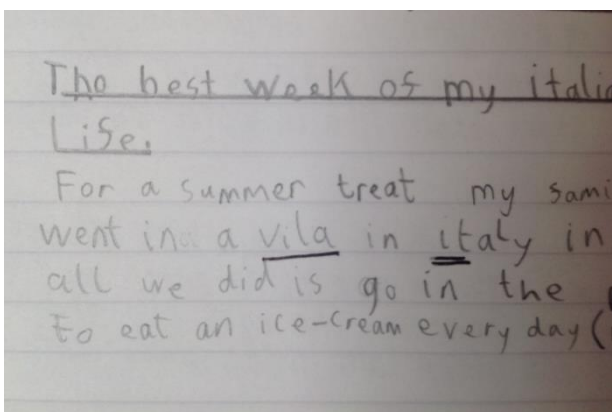
We are gradually introducing a more cursive approach to handwriting at Farfield. This will not result in an overnight transformation for most children, but by the end of the school year, I do expect a significant improvement in the presentation of written work across the school. We are already seeing some pleasing improvements, particularly amongst some children in the juniors.



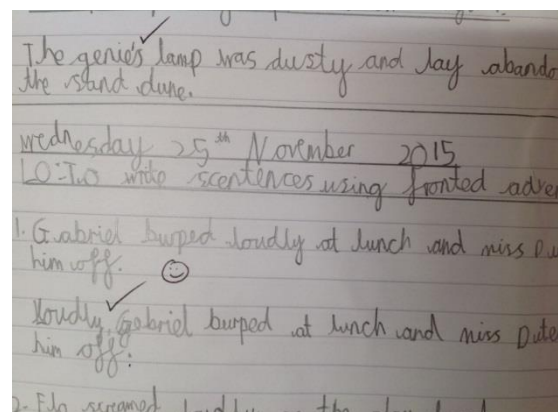
Year 5 girl September



Same Year 5 girl November



Year 4 boy September



Same Year 4 boy November

### Why are we doing this?

1. To improve standards of handwriting/presentation
2. To support spelling
3. To support children with elements of dyslexia or dysgraphia

### How are we going to do this?

Letters will first be introduced in Reception and Year 1 in a pre-cursive form. Most children of this age will still print, but will be encouraged to include the 'flicks' and 'hooks' necessary for later joining. Some children may naturally see that the letters can be joined but it will not be an expectation initially.

One of the key changes is that letters will be formed from the (notional) line. Letters will still be taught in 'families' that have similar formation, and we will also be practising important letter combinations such as ai, au, tion so that children 'feel' the flow of the sequence of letters.

As children actually join the letters in each word from Y2, (almost) every letter will be formed without taking the pencil off the paper - and consequently, each word is formed in one, flowing movement.

The key advantages to this system are:

- By making each letter in one movement, children's hands develop a 'physical memory' of it, making it easier to produce the correct shape;
- Because letters and words flow from left to right, children are less likely to reverse letters which are typically difficult (like b/d or p/q);
- The continuous flow of writing ultimately improves speed and spelling.

Letters will be taught like this:

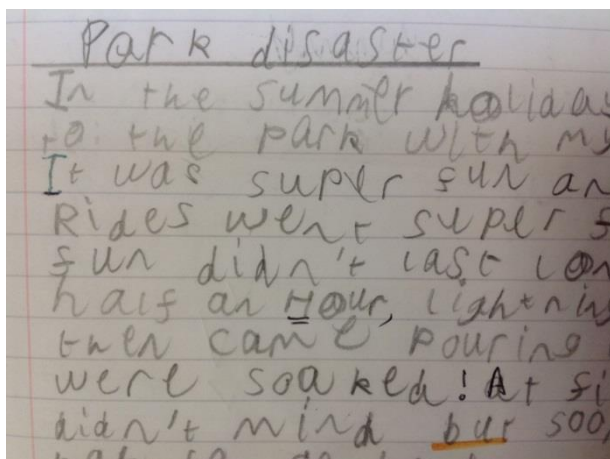
|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | b | c | d | e | f |
| g | h | i | j | k | l |
| m | n | o | p | q | r |
| s | t | u | v | w | x |
| y | z |   |   |   |   |

Teachers will often use a joined script in their classroom resources and to display on the board so that children are very familiar with the expected joins and standards of presentation. Comments from younger pupils such as: "I can't read that!" will be short-lived!

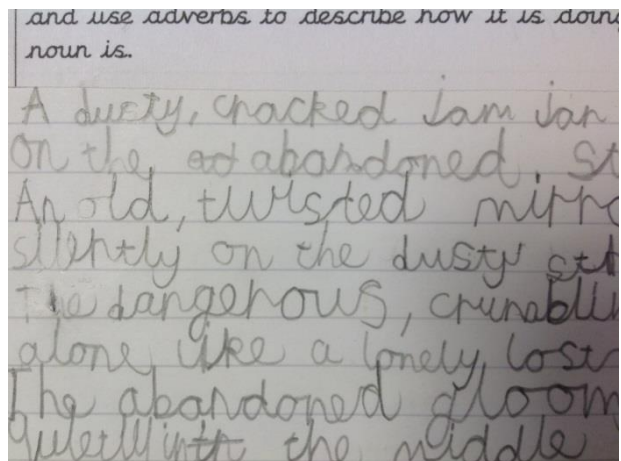
Over the course of the year, we will try to make available some other handwriting resources for you should you wish to practise handwriting more at home.

Very best wishes,

Peter Harris  
Head teacher



Year 4 boy September



Same Year 4 boy November