

## Our Journey to Great Writing

### The importance of 'Talk' in becoming a great writer

We know that if children can't say or talk about it, then they can't write it. The better we talk, the better we write. Having a wide vocabulary and using language helps children with all of their learning. Every week your child will be given 'talk homework', giving them a talk topic to discuss with you.

Here are some ways in which you can help your child at home in their journey to great writing:

- Talk! Talk! Talk! - ask children to describe anything and everything, question him/her and encourage your child to elaborate and use 'wow' words. If something is BIG, is it ENORMOUS, HUGE OR GIGANTIC?
- Write! Write! Write! - whatever stage they are at in their mark making or writing, encourage them to write letters, a diary, make lists etc.
- Take the opportunity to comment on interesting use of vocabulary when reading with your child.
- Explain new words you encounter to your child and give examples of how to use them.
- Read often and widely with your child. Encourage children to use phrases or words seen in a book.
- Look at a picture or photo and describe it using interesting vocabulary.
- Encourage your children to re-tell familiar stories in their own words.
- In order to share achievements, please send into school any writing that your child has done at home.