



Desert Class



Years 5 & 6 Handwriting

As a school, we feel that it is important that we keep you informed about our current teaching of handwriting in school and our expectations in each class.

Why is handwriting important?

- Handwriting objectives are included in the National Curriculum and therefore can affect the assessment of children's writing.
- The quality of handwriting is often linked to spelling ability. A child whose writing flows often helps them to 'feel the word' and spell words correctly.

Teaching and Expectations

In Years 5 & 6, the children should be taught to:

- Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:
 - ❖ Choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding or not to join specific letters.
 - ❖ Choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.






(from National Curriculum)

In school, we use the **continuous cursive form**. This is a consistent approach across the school.

How to Write Continuous Cursive Letters

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm

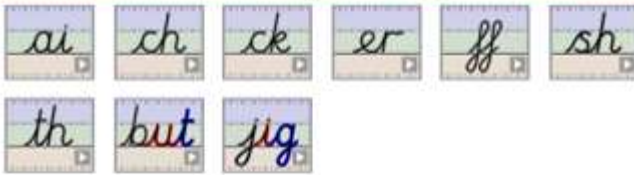
Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz



By Year 5 & 6, the children are expected to have mastered writing with accurate letter size (ascenders and descenders). In Years 5 & 6, the children are encouraged to develop their own style.

The letter joins that all of the children will learn are shown below. These will be taught in discrete handwriting lessons by Mrs Higgs on Thursdays.

Continuous Cursive Letter - bottom joins



Continuous Cursive Letter - bottom to c shaped letter joins



Continuous Cursive Letter - bottom e letter joins



Continuous Cursive Letter - top e letter joins



Continuous Cursive Letter top letter joins



In Desert class, a huge incentive for the children to present their work neatly and join their handwriting is to achieve their 'pen license'. They are then allowed to write using a black pen in our lessons.

Some of the children have discovered 'rub out' pens. These are brilliant and have really improved the presentation of the children's work.



Pilot Frixion black pen – erasable rollerball

As a school, we would love to be able to buy these for all of our Year 5 & 6 children but I am afraid our budgets cannot stretch this far. If you are able to purchase one of these for your own child once they achieve their pen license, then that would be much appreciated and very helpful.

Kind regards, Mrs Sarah Vail.