

# Everyday Writing

For children who find writing to be a challenge, often the last thing they want to do is to sit and practise their letters or words. Because writing is such an integral part of school and learning we want to ensure that children continue to engage in this task and expand their skills, while making sure that they do not see this as a negative experience.

Below are some thoughts on writing over the holidays or during the week which can help to engage a child and help them to consolidate their letter awareness, letter formations, spelling, or whatever level of writing they are working on at the time

Make it fun...but make it consistent and create a positive feeling around the skill of writing.

Look for the positives in children's skill development, which will mean letting some of the errors slide at time, to support their sense of achievement.

*Writing tools: pencils, felt pens, chalk, white board markers, crayons*

*Writing surfaces: blackboard, whiteboard, blank paper, plain lined paper, exercise book paper specific to your child's grade*

## How to build some writing into the everyday:

- Help to write shopping lists
- Write Invitations to friends for play dates
- Send Thank You cards at Eater, Christmas and birthdays
- Create lists:
  - Birthday wishes
  - Holiday plans
  - Favourite movies
  - Bucket list
  - Daily "to do"
  - Meal requests for the week
  - Song play list for Spotify
- Draw letters on the shower screen in shaving cream
- Write notes to your child and encourage them to write back to you
- Play games such as:
  - Restaurants (write the order / menu)
  - Vets / doctors (write a script)
- Use pavement chalk on the cement
- Write a holiday journal
- Play word games such as Boggle, Scategories, or drawing games such as Pictionary
- Create place cards for the family at dinner time
- Draw a map (eg: treasure map) and label it
- See our sheet on how to build writing into board games
- Mazes, dot to dots and word find games all help with pencil control too

