

# WOODFORD GREEN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

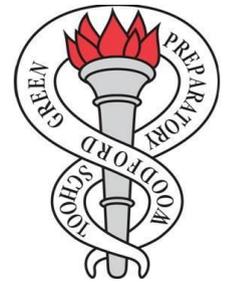
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*Headmaster: Mr J P Wadge, BA (Hons) Dunelm, PGCE, NPQH*

Dear Parents,

Last year we introduced the *Hemisphere Think Write* cursive handwriting programme. It teaches children the letter formation before transitioning into fully joining.

*Hemispheres Think Write* was developed by a Specialist Occupational Therapist, Shelley Birkett-Eyles. Shelley visited WGPS and delivered staff training in September 2019. Following this training, staff successfully implemented this programme.

Learning to write is something that all children are expected to learn in the early years of education. Handwriting is made up of visual symbols, auditory sounds and motor movements, all of which are processed by different parts of the brain. The skill of handwriting is the bringing together of the sound, symbol and motor patterns. As a school we value the importance of writing neatly and see the benefits of introducing cursive writing and correct letter formation early.

The *Think Write* programme is made up of four distinctive modules:

- Module 1      Learning the cognitive framework
- Module 2      Getting ready for writing
- Module 3      Learning to write
- Module 4      Writing with fluency and control

We begin the programme in Foundation One where the children are introduced to the animal characters which act as the visual figurehead for letter categories. The three key animal characters are, Harriet the Cow, Georgia the Pig, and Rupert and Zac the sheep. These animals represent the three formation categories: tall line letters, up and over letters, and short line letters.

We are delighted to be able to provide each child with a log in to access the *ThinkWrite* programme at home, should they wish. Please be aware it is only currently available as an app on apple ipad devices. Please search **Hemisphere Think Write** on the app store.

We would very much like to encourage you to explore the app and become familiar with the programme and the characters in order to support your child.

To gain access to the Think Write programme please use your child's google email address and the password: 12345678.

If you have any questions please do contact the class teacher.

Kind regards,

Miss Knight  
E-Learning Coordinator.