

Starting school skills

There is a lot to learn when your child starts school! Below is a selection of skills that your child will be developing during their first few weeks at school. Please support and encourage your child to practise these skills at home.

Personal Skills

Encourage your child to:

- wash and dry their hands;
- use the toilet;
- use a tissue to blow and wipe their nose;
- put on and fasten their coat;
- put on and fasten their shoes;
- put belongings in their book bag, opening and closing it independently



Independence and Sharing

Support your child to:

- take turns when playing simple games and share toys, put away toys and games when finished;
- join in with games and activities with other people. Try having a friend round to your house to play – this is great for encouraging independence and developing confidence too.

Eating and Drinking

Talk to your child about how to:

- make healthy choices at lunchtime;
- look at the school menu and try some of the different foods. If your child will be having a packed lunch, try packing some lunches together. What would your child like to eat? Can they open the different packages? Can they open their lunch box independently?
- use a knife, fork and spoon.



Speaking and Listening

Encourage your child to:

- listen to stories, songs and rhymes and to join in with repeated words or phrases;
- ask and answer simple questions, listen to and follow simple instructions
- ask a grown-up for help when needed.

Reading and Writing

Support your child to:

- recognise their name when written down;
- hold a pencil in a tripod grip;
- practise writing their name.



Number Skills

Support your child to:

- count small groups of objects;
- practise counting to 10;
- sing number rhymes or songs.



Please speak to a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns, either in person or you can email:

newstarters@sjsmacc.cheshire.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you all in September

Warm Regards

Mrs Cole and Mrs Walsh