**Reading and Writing Numbers to 20**

Reading and writing numbers can be a difficult task to complete. It requires the child to recognise and identify both numbers and written words, and then match them together. To break this down, please follow the instructions below. You will need to use the ‘number snap numerals and number words’ document to support this learning.

* First, make sure your child can read and identify the numerals to 20. Print off the support document and cut out the numbers. Have them laid out on the table and play a little game. Who can find the number 10 first? Who can find the number 14? Alternatively you could hide the numbers around the room and see who can find them first!
* Once you know your child has grasped reading numerals to 20, introduce reading them in word form. Start with number words one to five. Using the support document, can you match the words together with your child to the correct number? Little and often is the key with this; just 5 minutes here and there every other day would be useful. Gradually, as your child becomes more confident with 1-5, you can introduce more numbers until you reach 20.
* Once your child is familiar with all of the numbers, you can use the support document to make a game. All of the numbers and words can be face down on the table to make a memory matching pair game. Turn two cards over at a time to try and match the number to the word. You will need your thinking caps on to remember where the numbers and words are to try and match them!
* To help your child practice forming the numerals and writing the written number form, you could play a game where you hold up one of the cards from the support document and your child either has to write down the opposite of what you hold up. For example, if you help up the word ‘eight’, your child would need to write ‘8’. If you held up the number ‘13’, your child would need to write ‘thirteen’. Spelling is tricky with some of the words so just have lots of practice. Your child may want to hold one up for you to write down!
* Extension task: how many numbers does your child know? Can they write numbers to 50 in both numeral and written word form? How about to 100?!