## HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH WRITING FUNCTIONAL LETTERS

A functional letter is a formal letter e.g. a complaint or request. When writing the letter your child should be clear about the purpose of the letter. Your child should be aware who they are writing to and should use appropriate words.

- \* Look at magazines and newspapers/watch television programmes where children are encouraged to write in to the editor or producer
- Write requesting information for a school project or a hobby
- Write to complain about something you have bought or a poor service
- Write a request to join a swimming club or to arrange a visit to a museum
- \* Encourage your child to proofread their writing carefully
- \* Use plenty of praise and encouragement
- \* Make writing fun. Write some letters together!

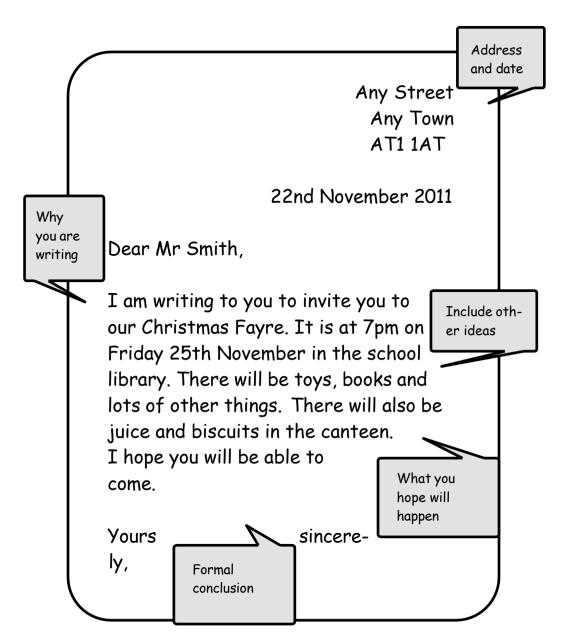
## Stow Primary School Helping with Writing

Writing together really helps me. I like talking about my ideas.

It's good to know how
I can help. He is
more enthusiastic
about writing.



Functional
Letter Writing
First Level
(2)



## When writing letters children learn to:

at the beainning state why they are writina. put address begin using and date at Dear... the top. state what they hope will happen. finish with a include ideformal as in conclusion "yours" sequence. sincerely".

## Tools for writing

- \* Use capital letters and full stops correctly. Use question marks and commas.
- \* Spell familiar words correctly using phonics.
- \* Use joining words e.g. but, then, so, that, because.
- Use joined up writing.
- \* Use a dictionary for tricky words.