

HOME LEARNING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE

Dear Parents, Carers,

As you will be aware, the Government has decreed that all schools in England will close for an unforeseen time from Friday. During these unprecedented times, we hope that everyone stays safe and well and that children will continue with their learning and continue to make progress, even in these unusual circumstances.



In order that our children still receive an education whilst at home, we have compiled a **home learning pack** that each child will be expected to work on over the period of absence from school. Most of these activities will reinforce work that your child has been working on so far in this academic year.

Your child will also bring home an **exercise book** to record any work that is set by teachers.

Each week, on a Monday, parents will receive a **parentmail** containing five main learning activities to completed over the course of the week. This work will consist of tasks, practical activities or attached worksheets. Most of these tasks should be recorded in their exercise book. We look forward to seeing completed work when we return to school, so please ensure that children aim to complete work to the standard expected at school (written in pencil (not pen), neatest handwriting and presentation and coloured in pencil crayon). We will award prizes for the most impressive!

One of the most important aspects of home learning is **reading**. Please ensure that children read daily so that when we return to school, their progress and reading ability will not have declined, significantly. Children could keep a list of everything they have read, (books, poems, web-sites, comics, information texts, recipes, instructions etc.).

Children could also benefitted from the various **online resources** (many of which are provided free of charge) to practise basic skills in many different ways. A number of excellent web-sites and learning platforms are listed below.

Additionally, a great way to keep in contact with your child's teacher and their peers, to share ideas and show what they have been learning, is to open a **Twitter** account and follow your child's class.

Finally, if you do have questions or need some advice...or even want to share your teaching and learning successes, please e-mail: head@westwood.lancs.sch.uk

All the very best wishes.

Mrs Martin and Mr Masson

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Online Safety

If children are accessing online activities to support their learning, you might like to refresh them and yourselves about how to remain safe online.

www.internetmatters.org

www.thinkyouknow.co.uk

ENGLISH

Activities you could do with your child:

Share a story

Write a book review

Write a character description e.g. for a Top Trumps Card

Read some opening chapters from the Love Reading 4 Kids website

Write a story, poem, play

Make puppets and put on a play

Play a board game, dig out old favourites and hold championship tournaments! You could even design a new one for a target audience!

Paint a picture and label it/write about it / create a poem

Blackout poems – <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/blog-posts/johndepasquale/blackout-poetry/>

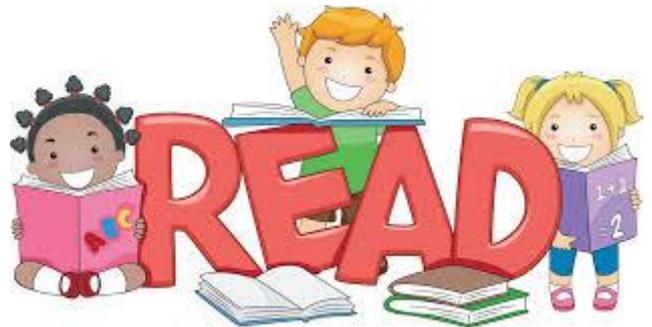
Look, say, cover, write, check spellings

Create a poster about washing hands/hygiene about Coronavirus

Make an Easter Egg Hunt with clues in your garden

Make Mother's Day cards, poems

Research 'project'/poster on a topic that's been covered in school recently, e.g. the Egyptians, a famous author, an inspirational person etc. This could be in the form of a poster, leaflet, booklet or a PowerPoint presentation etc.



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Have a good declutter/sort-out of your toys! Which toys or books do you no longer use? Write a review of your favourite with a target audience!

Bake! Bake your favourite recipe and write up the recipe so as to create a class book of favourite recipes when you return to school.

Junk modelling – why not upcycle some waste materials in order to make something new?

Useful websites are:

Oxford Owl (KS1) <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Teach your monster to read (Reception- Y2) <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/>

ICT Runway (Y1) <https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/writingRunway/index.html>

BBC Bitesize (Reception-Y6) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

British Library (Reception -Y6) <https://www.bl.uk/>

WordMania (An app for KS2)

Phonics Play (Reception – Year 2) <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

ICTGames (Reception - Y6) <http://www.ictgames.com/>

Lovereading4kids (Reception-Y6) <https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/>

Change for Life website (Reception-Y6) <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>

MATHEMATICS

Activities you could do with your child

Playing games, especially card games, dice games, dominoes or games involving counting in any form, such as Yahtzee, Monopoly, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders.

In addition, games that support memory, such as memory matching games

<https://www.education.com/worksheets/memory-games/> or 'I went to the shops and I bought...'

<https://www.teachingideas.co.uk/memory-time-fillers/i-went-to-the-shops...> can help to develop children's retention skills.

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For children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, practice making and recalling pairs of numbers that make a given total, such as all the pairs of numbers that make 10, 8, 5 etc.

For children in Years 2 to 6, practice times tables.

Year 2: 2, 5 and 10 times tables

Year 3: 3, 4 and 8 times tables

Years 4 to 6: All tables up to 12×12



Useful websites

www.mathplayground.com (Years 2 to 6)

Especially the Number Puzzles and Brain Workouts sections. Alternatively, select from the grades at the top of the page (Grade 1 = Year 2, Grade 2 = Year 3, etc).

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks> (EYFS and Year 1)

Videos to develop understanding of numbers and how they fit together.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zjxhfg8> (Years 1 and 2)

Short videos and activities covering the maths curriculum for KS1.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39> (Years 3 to 6)

Short videos and activities covering the maths curriculum for KS2.

SCIENCE

Take a walk in nature. Make a collection of things you find. Once home, display them and see if you can identify them. Nature Detectives has some great 'spotter sheets' which might help.



Plant some vegetables to grow at home. How can you keep them healthy? Once grown, can you use them in your cooking? Easy ones to grow for younger children are lettuce varieties, cress, radish or basil and mint herbs.

Have a family sunflower competition. Who can keep their plant healthy and grow the tallest sunflower? Keep a diary of how much

it grows each day.

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Make a marble run. How long can you keep the marble moving for?

Take a 'Science Selfie'. Take a photograph of themselves with something science related in the image. Print off the photograph and complete the caption 'This is science because...' Make a collection of 'Science Selfies' to show how science is all around us.

With an adult for guidance, experiment with cooking and food preparation. Make cakes and discuss what they notice at each stage of the recipe. Try this experiment to see how oven temperature affects cake mix: Make some cake mixture and place in 15 separate muffin cases. Put all the muffins in the oven then after every minute remove one from the oven until all 15 have been removed. Which is the best cake? Why? What do you notice? Mix up the cake order and see if you can put them back in the correct order.

Try making some healthier snacks. Try super-seed energy balls, homemade granola, hummus with veg sticks. Explore online for some great ideas.

Make a den, inside or out. Explain what materials you used and why your den is good?

Research a famous scientist. What did they discover? How is their idea used today?

Useful websites

EYFS/KS1/KS2: <https://www.rigb.org/families/experimental>

ExpeRimental is a series of short films making it fun, easy and cheap to do science experiments at home with your children. The films depict the age of the children for which the experiments are suitable.

KS2: <https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.com/resources/challenge-cards.html> Dyson engineers have designed these challenges specifically for children. Ideal for home or in the classroom, they encourage inquisitive young minds to get excited about engineering.

EYFS/KS1: <https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/activities> Free, downloadable materials to support being nature detectives in the outdoors

Families working together: <https://seerih-innovations.org/science4families>

For more science experiments try <https://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments/>

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PHYSICAL – Stay fit and healthy!

Activities you could do with your child:

If school is closed but your child does not need to self-isolate you may consider

Some sort of physical activity. The Chief Medical Officers guidelines for young people is to be active for at least 60 minutes a day. Examples of moderate intensity activities include, walking, playing outside in a park, riding a scooter, cycling, ball games etc. Reduce the time spent sitting or lying down and break up long periods of not moving with some activity. Aim to spread activity throughout the day. All activities should make you breathe faster and feel warmer, above all make it fun and something the children enjoy.



Other activities you could do with your child:

Physical activity ideas from <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities>

Useful websites

<https://plprimarystars.com/for-families> (activities for KS1 and KS2 children)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/super movers> (activities for Ks1 and Ks2 children)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/physical-education-ks1-ks2-lets-get-active/z72yjhv>

EARLY YEARS / FOUNDATION STAGE

Ideas for Parents to Support their Child's Learning at Home:

Provide children with paper and pens/pencils/crayons to draw pictures, engage in writing - including practising letter formation, writing simple words, captions, lists, simple sentences.

Provide opportunities for children to play boards games with adults or siblings, encouraging taking turns, communication, language and vocabulary skills and maths skills. For example dominoes, snakes and ladders, bingo, tiddly winks.

Opportunities for children to play in outdoor spaces – gardens, backyards (not visiting parks or public places.) Games which involve throwing and catching, (soft items from indoors such as sponges, scarves, balloons, etc. bubbles using washing up liquid and wire to make a simple bubble blower, skipping, jumping, hopscotch, etc.

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Websites

The following websites are for parents to access with ideas of activities they can do with their child or activities they can set up to support their child's continuing learning at home.

www.playhorray.co.uk/blog/news/play-for-all-ages -this site has 10 practical ideas for parents for reception and Year groups 1-6

www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/how-to-utilise-twinkl-during-the-coronavirus-shutdown-a-guide-for-schools - twinkl has opened up their resources online to all schools and parents during this period of possible school shutdown. Access to resources will be password free.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-with-maths - lots of ideas for practical maths activities to do at home

www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/4-to-5-year-old-child-development-activities - provides short videos on games and activities parents can engage in with their child, many of which the children can then play on their own or with a sibling.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies - Numberblocks - activities for children to engage in to continue with important number skills such as counting, number recognition, simple calculation.

www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk – activities for children aged 0-5

www.literacytrust.org.uk chat, play read videos and activities for parents and children from 0-5

www.backyardnature.org.uk – lots of ideas for children to get involved in looking for nature in the garden /yard. Make a bug hotel using empty cardboard boxes left in a corner, and then look to see what is hiding after a couple of days. Look on the internet to find out the names of the mini beasts hiding in your garden.

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk / www.nationalinsectweek.co.uk for nature's detective ideas and activities

COMPUTING

BBC Bitesize – KS1 (Year 1 and 2). Animations and key information that children can work through.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zyhbwmn>

BBC Bitesize – KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6). Animations and key information that children can work through.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zvnrg6f>

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Code for Life (Rapid Router) Levels 1-18 for KS1 Levels 19-79 for
KS2 Concepts are taught as the children move through the
levels.

<https://www.codeforlife.education/rapidrouter/>

