

As we begin our home based learning journey, I thought it would be useful to have some more information about activities and resources you could use at home. These activities are only suggestions. You are not required to complete them all! I would encourage you to email me with photographs of your work. I would love to see what the children have been doing at home. I am also very happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Reading** - Please try and read as often as you can. Encourage children to read their school reading book and any books they have at home. All reading counts! So if your child enjoys information book about animals or 'Horse and Hounds Magazine' that's great too. Encourage the children to record any words they are unsure of and then look them up in the dictionary. Children could develop their own dictionaries and practise using new words in conversations throughout the day. Talking about what the children have read is helpful too. Discuss characters, settings and what might happen next. Consider what you might do in the same situation. Do you like the characters? If not, why not?

Useful websites to support reading at home;

Amazon audible has a large selection of audio books available for free, see <https://stories.audible.com>.

The Literacy Trust has a free story in five parts 'The Character strikes back' <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/free-short-story-tom-palmer-years-4-5-and-6-character-strikes-back/>

The BBC has an excellent range of stories to listen to. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/audio-stories/>

Twinkl currently has reading comprehensions available for free. <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/keystage2-ks2/ks2-english/ks2-reading>

**English** – During these lessons we use our grammar and spelling skills for creative writing. Children should be encouraged to join their handwriting and always use a capital letter at the start of every sentence and a full stop at the end, as well as other grammatical features that are on the checklist list sent home in the learning packs. Children could complete any of these activities at home.

- Write a story using the pictures in the learning pack or any other of their choosing; thinking carefully about the beginning, middle and end.
- Write an alternative ending or a 'what happened next' for their favourite story
- Create a puppet show to perform using either a traditional story or one they have made up.
- Learn spellings <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb> has excellent resources to support spelling knowledge.

**Maths** – During these lessons we work through concepts together on the whiteboard before moving into individual tasks once understanding is secure. If you are working on Maths activities you could go through a few examples together to make sure your child is confident.

Activities for home:

- **Learn times tables.** A secure knowledge and instant recall of multiplication and division facts would greatly help children's learning once they return to the classroom. <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables> has a lot of fun games that at both computer and tablet friendly.

- Practice telling the time using both a 12 hour and 24 hour clock. Encourage the children to work out the length of programmes they enjoy watching. For example, the difference between lengths of

programmes, what time they would finish if they started at an earlier or later time, Eg. at 13.07 for 44 minutes.

- Prodigy Maths. Codes for years 5 and 6 were provided in the learning packs. This is an excellent free resource that will cover many of the topics taught over the school year and help revise concepts taught <https://www.prodigygame.com/>

- Other websites that support learning Maths at home include:

<https://classroomsecrets.co.uk/free-home-learning-packs/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/keystage2-ks2/ks2-maths>

**Science** - As a class we have been learning about light and how it travels; and floating and sinking. Children could consolidate this learning by thinking about buoyancy and looking at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zc89k7h>

Edinburgh Zoo online have live webcams watching their animals which I am sure the children would enjoy and would support their knowledge of habitats.

<https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/>

**History and Geography** – Class Four have enjoyed finding out all about the Sea. This is a wide topic and the children could further their knowledge according to their interests. In particular, I would like them to find out about Lighthouses; their locations, their structure and their history. Children might also enjoy finding out about pirates! <https://horriblehistoriestv.wordpress.com/putrid-pirates/>

**Art** – Children could do some observational drawing of items around the house or in the garden. Remember Art covers many disciplines. Drawing, sewing, knitting, crochet, French knitting can all be art. Can the children learn a new skill? The National Gallery is providing virtual tours <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours>, Children could find a picture from the collection that they like and try to recreate it.

**PE** – If possible children could play ball games outside in the garden with people from your household. Otherwise there are lots of resources available on line including Joe Wicks (the Body Coach) who is hosting a live HIIT session every week day morning on 9am for 30 mins. Cosmic Kids yoga also have some great stretch sessions. Both are available on <https://www.youtube.com/>

I hope that has given you a few ideas of ways of supporting your child's learning at home. I appreciate this is a very worrying and stressful time. Many of you may be feeling anxious and overwhelmed with having to juggle working from home yourselves and complete home learning; I do understand this feeling and want to do everything I can to support you.

I can be contacted via email at [mroberts@burleygate.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:mroberts@burleygate.hereford.sch.uk) and am happy to answer any questions you might have.

Please remember that children are learning through play and discovery all the time. Baking, bird watching, problem solving, building dens, and playing with Lego are all fun learning opportunities, and enjoyable activities you can share together. Please send me photographs of any pictures, models, or cakes that you make to my email address at school.