

Dear Parents/Carers,

Although schools are not closing yet, I have begun to compile various activities, projects and resources for you and the children to use at home if they are at home having to self-isolate or if the school shuts. Please only use these activities in these situations, not as extra work whilst school is still open. Regular homework will be set as well for the time being. I hope that you find these resources helpful over the coming weeks.

I have set a variety of '2Do's on Purple Mash for the children to use at home over the next few weeks. More information about Purple Mash, and the children's login details are included. The '2Do's that I have set include games, quizzes and writing projects. The children should know how to access their '2Do's by clicking on each activity in their alerts. Once the activity is finished, they can hand their work/scores in to me by pressing the 'Hand In' button. If they would like to repeat a game or activity, they can do this by finding in using the search bar. There are plenty more games and projects on Purple Mash relating to Art, Geography, History etc. The children are welcome to complete any of these as well. They should know how to save work into their folders so can save any additional projects that they complete. In the Serial Mash section of Purple Mash, there are lots of online books, quizzes and games that the children can read and complete as well.

Our topic for this half term is 'Around the World in 80 Days'. You may wish to continue this geography learning at home by using compass directions and directional language, looking at maps and aerial views of different places or finding out about seasons and weather patterns of different places around the world. You may also like to do some Art or a D&T project inspired by different countries or continents. We were going to do a cooking project taking inspiration from Mexican cooking in the last week of term, so this is something you may wish to do at home if we are not at school then.

In science, our topic for this half term is 'Animals Including Humans'. You may wish to continue this learning at home by creating life cycles of different animals or fact files about different animal groups e.g. mammals, amphibians, birds etc. You may also wish to study healthy living in humans by discussing the healthy living plate and creating your own and finding out why exercise is good for us.

In this pack I have included some handwriting, maths and writing tasks for the children. If you would like to access some more resources, I have a few additional websites that may be of use to you.

If you sign up at <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/offer> and use the code UKTWINKLHELPS you will be able to access lots of brilliant teaching resources and activities for free over the next month.

We have been solving the White Rose Problem of the day each morning in class. You may wish to continue these at home. There will also be other useful maths resources for home learning on this website too. <https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/classroom-resources/problems/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> Top Marks has lots of games to use online.

Scholastic have put together some stories, videos, reading and writing activities which you can find at <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html?caching>

You will also find free eBooks and other resources and teaching aids at <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

For the Year 2s:

Although I have not discussed the end of KS1 SATs with the children, you may wish to begin to prepare at home for the tests (I like to refer to them as quizzes or challenges so that the children are not overwhelmed or stressed by the prospect of formal testing). The SATs usually take place in May. If you would like to, I recommend buying the Scholastic or CGP 10 Minute SATs books as an aid for revision and preparation. These may be useful to buy even if the schools do not shut. Twinkl also has practice booklets and tests. Please do mark any completed work together to discuss and unpick any errors or misconceptions the children may have.

For the Year 1s:

The Year 1s will take a short phonics screening test towards the end of the year (usually in June). The check is designed to give teachers and parents information on how the children are progressing in their phonics and early reading. If you would like to, I recommend buying the CGP Phonics Buster book. Alternatively, there are lots of phonics resources on some of the websites mentioned above (Purple Mash, Twinkl, Scholastic, Oxford Owl).

It is essential that both Year 1s and Year 2s keep up with their daily reading so that they maintain and build on their current levels of speed, fluency and accuracy and are having opportunities to discuss and understand the texts they read. You can use some of the eBooks on Serial Mash, Scholastic and Oxford Owl if you run out of books at home. Please also continue to support them with reading and spelling their Year 1 and 2 common exception words.

Any further updates and recommendations will be sent out electronically.

Kind regards and best wishes,

Mrs Smith