

Learning at Home during school closures – St Mark's

We have worked hard as a whole group of teachers to put together some suggested activities that you can support your child in whilst they are at home. We'd love it if you could make some time every day to keep your child 'thinking school' to ensure they keep up with their education and have the best chance to succeed. We have put priorities in red, just in case you're short of time.

This is also a fab website from the BBC with lots of ideas: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/five-ways-to-keep-your-kids-learning-at-home/z4966v4>

Reading

- **Please ensure your child reads every day.** In school they would have at least 15 minutes of independent reading and also be read to by an adult. This is a great thing to do, particularly if you're stuck indoors!
- When reading with your child, please ask them questions about their reading, based on the 'VIPERS'. We have attached some question stems that could help you to structure these answers.
- When reading with your child (or watching TV!), be inquisitive and excited about new vocabulary - what do words mean? Why have they been chosen? Which ones can we try to use in our conversations?
- Year 6: Here are some practice SATs papers – your child could use these to familiarise themselves and make sure they are reading a range of text types! https://www.satstestsonline.co.uk/sto_past_papers.aspx

Spelling

- Please ensure your child practises their spellings that they have been set for this term. The Term 4 Curriculum Letters have explained the rules so please focus on these on a weekly basis.
- Does your child know how to spell all the High Frequency Words (see website)? A super opportunity to learn them in this time!
- Learn Year 3 and 4 spellings or Year 5/6 words (see website).
- Year 6: There are various websites where you can find practice test papers for Spelling and SPAG revision style challenges. Here is one website for practice papers: <https://www.satspapersguide.co.uk/ks2-year-6-sats/ks2-year-6-sats-papers/>

Maths

- Practise mental arithmetic skills. This means, making sure that your child is able to add, subtract, multiply and divide accurately using mental and written methods. Have a look at our Calculation Policy to make sure the level is right! <https://st-marks.wilts.sch.uk/maths-curriculum-information/>
- **Practise times tables daily** on TT Rockstars: <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth>

In school, we would have been learning the following topic areas in Maths. **Please try to work on these in the next few weeks so that we can limit any missing gaps ready for their future learning.** We have attached links for the overviews of learning – super questions to do with your children – but please see our website for further questions and resources for your child to complete and investigate.

- Year 3: Fractions <https://whiterosemaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/SoLs/Primary/Year-3-2018-19-Spring-Term-Block-5-FINAL.pdf>
- Year 4: Area <https://whiterosemaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Year-4-2018-19-Spring-Term-Block-2-FINAL.pdf>
- Year 5: Decimals and percentages <https://whiterosemaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/SoLs/Primary/Spring-Year-5-2018-19-Block-3-FINAL.pdf>
- Year 6: Ratio <https://whiterosemaths.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/SoLs/Primary/Year-6-2018-19-Spring-Term-Block-6-FINAL.pdf> and Consolidation of learning so far, e.g. reasoning and mental arithmetic practice https://www.satstestsonline.co.uk/sto_past_papers.aspx

Why not have a go at the White Rose Maths Problem of the Day too? They release one every day and will even be doing video tutorials during the Covid-19 closure. <https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/classroom-resources/problems/>

Topic-based learning

In school, we'd be learning about the Topics set out in the Parent Letters. Here are some ideas to keep this up:

Year 3

- Make a kite for Bertie
- Try some African tie-die on a t-shirt
- Make an African mask using traditional African colours and designs
- Sketch a South African city, town and village. Label the key human and physical features.
- Write a narrative story pretending you are Bertie and you go out into the veld. Remember the story mountain structure and different sentence starters.
- Sketch an African animal and, if possible, sketch a 3D animal (your parents may have an ornament). Remember your line, tone and shadow skills.

Year 4

- Create a treasure chest of items to represent Salisbury
- Create a piece of art based on the Salisbury artwork of John Constable
- Research the history of Old Sarum and how the Cathedral was actually moved!
- Map a treasure hunt of the hidden treasures around Salisbury. Where do you think people should visit?
- Invent a Salisbury quiz or board game
- Create your own water cycle model

Year 5

- Investigate one of the following rainforest related industries: mining, soy production, palm oil plantations or logging
- Sketch or paint a picture of a rainforest animal of your choice
- Research the discovery of a medicine
- If you could go to South America, where would you go? Create a tourist leaflet or fact file.
- Research and record food chains or webs of the rainforest
- Write your own Rainforest Adventure Story

Year 6

- Research Mary Shelley and the story of Frankenstein
- Complete some Frankenstein inspired artwork
- Create your own Frankenstein inspired story
- Research and create an autobiography of Mary Anning
- Design an animal adapted to a specific Biome and label to explain how and why it will survive
- Design and make your own junk model monster

Mental Health

In addition to continuing your learning of core subjects, it is also important to look after your mental health. Choose from the following activities to engage with daily:

- Listen to some calming music
- Practise your mindfulness techniques/take some quiet time for you, clear your mind, focus on your breathing
- Sketch or paint what you can see out of your window or still life
- Play a board/card game with a member of your family
- Take part in a High Intensity Interval Training – search Joe Wicks (The Body Coach) on YouTube
- Carry out at least one act of kindness for somebody in your family every day (without being asked) e.g. help with dinner, clean the dishes, bake a cake, make your bed, tidy your room etc.
- Be a responsible citizen – help your family in this time of need – we all need to do our bit!
- Drink plenty of water and eat a healthy, balanced diet

Learning with technology

If you have access to a device, why not complete some of this work using j2e or Google tools? You could produce a poster or leaflet about your topic or create a topic pic collage or an animation. See MrW's Computing Blog to continue with your Computing work or look out for other activities posted there. Upload and share photos on j2e of projects that you have done so we could create a page celebrating your work.