Dear Parents

Please find enclosed a range of activities for your child to do at home with you to support their phonics, reading, literacy and number skills during the school closure period. There are also suggestions of other ideas you could do to help cover the other areas of learning! Please check the homework e-learn page regularly for additional activities and resources.

**Literacy**

Your child will benefit from regular reading and sharing some book talk. Any reading at all is very beneficial to your child, whether it be sharing a book or listening to a story.

We are currently investigating opportunities to access phonics level appropriate e-books at home. As soon as this is clarified, we will let you know.

**Handwriting** -we have put, on the school website, a general letter formation sheet. This shows the starting point for each letter to ensure correct formation. When writing, please model how to form the letter, calling it by its letter name and its phonics sound. At this stage, we do not join writing.

**Phonics** – to support the children’s phonics development, we have put on the homework section some activity books at the appropriate level for your child if you wanted to print out any workbooks to do with them. These can be worked through at your pace, with you explaining the task. Please follow this link to a video guide for correct pronunciation of the phonics sounds <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksblMiliA8>.

The **Phonics Play** website is being made free for parents to access during this time Username: march20 and passwords: home (we are currently finishing phase 3 of Letters and Sounds). We use this a lot at school so the children are familiar with many of the activities.

**TopMarks** also has some nice resources.

The website **‘Teach my monster to read’** is free to use on a computer, and available for a small fee as an App.

Additionally, any opportunities for writing/mark making, whether it be labels, lists or sentences would support your child’s writing. We often find that given the resources to write, the children will choose to write as part of their play. When writing, at this stage we focus on using phonics sounds to blend and create words. We look at the words being phonetically plausible so don’t worry if they don’t spell them correctly. We also have tricky words that you just can’t use phonics for. At this stage, these are the words the children need to know -to, the, me, we, be, she, he, they, all, are, was, you, my, her. Class 1 have been playing tricky word bingo to help learn these words. Any games like this can make learning fun.

When writing, we also encourage starting a sentence with a capital letter, leaving finger spaces between words, and finishing the sentence with a full stop. Asking the children to read back what they have written is a good way to consolidate their skills.

Any reading, phonics and writing activities at all, whether in a work or play situation, will be of great benefit to your child.

We have sent an exercise book for your child to record work in. A daily diary comprising of a couple of sentences and picture would keep those writing skills growing.

**Number work**

Things to work on at home using items such as counters to work practically:

* One more /one less than number to 10~ extend to 20 (working practically~ but then hopefully just mentally)
* Adding (encouraging counting on from the largest number)
* Subtraction (taking items away, encouraging counting back)
* Working out double numbers to double 5 (extend if this is too easy!)
* Having a go at halving numbers ~’If we have six bears and you have half and I half how many will we have each?
* Counting with your child to 20 and beyond. Counting back from 20 to 0, this will help with the subtraction work we have been doing.
* Making a 1-20 number line and having it somewhere visually to help with number recognition / the above counting task would be fantastic!
* Play games that involve using a dice, such as snakes and ladders. Dominoes are fun.
* An ‘I Can Do Book’ is in your child’s book bag. Work through this at your child’s pace…. You don’t need to do the pages in order. (There are activities in there for literacy too). Please ‘mark’ with your child and talk through any areas that need revisiting.
* There are activities on the Cbeebies website that support children’s number work development, including the Numberblocks.

**Other resources**

Twinkl, a well known provider of resources for the teaching community, are providing free access to their resources to all teachers and parents for a month(from the day you activate it). They have also produced a guidance pack for parents about supporting your child’s learning at home. The link is as follows

[www.twinkl.co.uk/offer](http://links.support.twinkl.co.uk/mps2/c/GgE/8PUmAA/t.301/7G6y1vRrQFOhV3HcG6sUEw/h5/EbC1nPf9k9D5DT3zk18lxBwa1fOubB7v8tpG7jFvX-2BAUbtuFWZqRQucggCq4xkD-2BcXZRVhMv6jRDtAXDkJfo-2BPY39Pl6rzJj5RA8l-2F0Qx-2FAbnlpHcpwDVJzdJ-2Fbx0xH3cpirySnajFEQ4LF3oVW90BTEDzanG6FbzEgbzQY-2BmK65sLdK-2B79vxjc5ExO3Zsp4K-2F5xD-2FfIe-2F-2B17fZHXXxZIw-3D-3D/aHP3)

and enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

One of the resources available is an EYFS reception class activity pack. It’s got lots of lovely ideas to keep the children busy. We are in the process of putting this on the e-learn homework page(please bear with us as we are getting used to this!)

Some other nice resources online include:

* Spread the Happiness
* Muddy Puddle (free subscription being offered)

We hope you enjoy these activities with your children. Please feel free to share feedback with us on Tapestry or if you would like extra tasks or need advice, we will check this daily: Monday to Friday during normal term time.

We will keep in touch either on Tapestry, the school website/Facebook or email.

Sending you and your lovely children our best wishes and hoping you all keep healthy and happy

Take care.

The Class One Team