

PILGRIMS AT HOME

Making the most of your child's Home Learning

7 January 2021

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we finalise our plans for both our Home Learning provision and our Key Worker families. With an increase in the number of children requiring Key Worker attendance in school, we have now reached our maximum numbers in each year group, based on staff availability.

Well done to all our Home Learning families – Mr Carr and I have been very impressed by how quickly you have 'switched over to' the remote provision, particularly those families in Reception and our new parents to Pilgrims.

I thought it would be useful to share with you some of the 'hints and tips' from our last Home Learning experience.



A GOOD START

Starting the day off with their normal school-day routine will help your child get ready for the day ahead. Printing out a copy of your child's weekly and daily timetable head of time will help you all know what to expect. Create your own timetable if necessary – whatever works best for you and your family. Having a clock nearby may also help your child know how long they have before the next activity / break time i.e. you have until the big hand has moved to the 6 etc.

TIMETABLE TIP!

Daily must dos:
Literacy
Numeracy
Reading
Mental Maths
PE and FUN!

Workstation



If you haven't already, it is a good idea to set up a quiet area of the house, away from the television/radio, if possible, for your child to work. If they have a sibling, and need to share a device, please ensure they each have access at scheduled times. Keep pens, pencils, paper, etc in your child's book-bag, making it easy for them to find the things they need independently. Remember, keep their water bottle filled and close at hand throughout the day! We have listed on the daily timetable the resources your child will need for each lesson. We are conscious that resources



may be limited at home, so we have planned lessons with this in mind. Make sure your child's Purple Mash log in is to hand. This should be in the back of your child's reading record.

Each year group will have a different '**Teacher Time**' scheduled in the morning with some 'live' teaching sessions for Year 1 and Year 2. As with our current registration process we **expect your child to attend these morning sessions as the teacher will be taking the register at this time.** If your child is not able to attend these morning sessions, please let your class teacher know via email or by telephoning the main school reception (01234 369555).

We will contact parents if their child has not attended to make sure all is OK and that their Home Learning programme is working correctly. Registers will be monitored by the class teacher and our Pastoral Co-Ordinator.

PE or Playtime?

We recognise that our Home Learning system does require the children to watch their devices for their teacher inputs and to complete some of the 2Dos on the computer. It is important that the children have regular opportunities to rest their eyes between each lesson and move away from the screen.

We appreciate that the winter weather is now cold and sometimes wet. However, we would encourage all families to plan in some daily physical exercise and playtime for their children. It's important that the children take some time either outside or in the house, away from their screens/tablets.



CONTINUOUS PROVISION (or exploring their Toy Box!)



Although predominantly for Reception children, we suggest setting up an area/box/basket of continuous provision activities. This is so that between lessons, or once work has been completed, the children can then go off and choose to play and explore independently. They could search their 'toy boxes' at home for 3 or 4 different activities for this. This short break in lesson time will give the children the freedom to make independent choices and become an active learner in a safe environment. It would be a good idea to relocate, or set up, the box/basket close to your child's workstation, so they can access it easily. Reception parents have a more detailed sheet of Continuous Provision ideas in their planning on Purple Mash.

DEVELOPING GROWTH MINDSET, AT HOME:



As at school, it is important to praise and reward the child when they have done something well, demonstrating one of the school values! Perhaps you could create your own 'reward/sticker chart' (there are many available to download on the internet).

Another idea would be use Lego or marbles to create a 3D reward chart – put a marble into a jar or build a tower, by reaching a pre-determined number of marbles, stickers, bricks across the week (10?), the children then receive a special treat; playing a game together, cooking cakes, a message from your class teacher or Mrs Webster?

PRAISE WISELY!

- For hard work
- The effort made
- Strategies used
- Focus
- Concentration
- Perseverance
- Appreciate the process used more than the outcome

We always like to hear how the children are getting on at home, so please remember to keep us posted!

THE POWER OF YET!



Remind your child about the 'Power of Yet' and encourage them to celebrate and be curious about the mistakes they make. Role modelling this is an excellent way to help your child know it is ok to get things wrong.

Tell your child about a time when you didn't know the answer to a question. Explain who you had to ask for help and how you learnt the answer?

Get curious about your child's work through questioning. How did you figure that out? What's another way you could have done that? How many times did you try before it turned out that way? What

here was challenging and how did you figure it out? What do you plan to do next time?

At school we have talked a lot about our **Fantastic Elastic Brains** Encourage resilience and 'stickability', even when something is tough. It's helpful to talk about this in terms of 'growing their brains' – when something is at its most challenging for them, that is when their brains are making lots of new connections.

FEEDBACK AND MARKING:

In school we give written or verbal feedback and use marking codes to identify the level of support given.

To try and help keep continuity between home and school learning, where possible, we would ask you to give your child verbal feedback on how they have got on and annotate any written work with the marking and feedback codes. Tasks that are completed in Purple Mash will be marked online by the teachers.

Feedback & Marking codes:

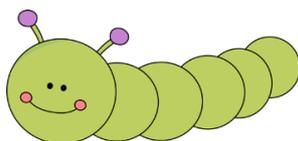
S – support
WSS – some support



HELPING AT HOME:

Children love to 'help' and at school we always encourage the children to have a go themselves, whether it's buttering their own toast at breakfast time, tidying up the toys or washing up the cups after snack. Please keep encouraging this at home – it also underpins our school's values of Respect and Kindness. It will be great to see some these photos from home too.

KIPSY THE CATERPILLAR CLUB:



Kipsy Time will remain part of the children's timetable. The children love our friendly caterpillar, Kipsy, as it helps them to share their feelings and emotions. If you haven't already done so, and you would like to, you can make your own home version, it's easy to do. They are made out of 4 or 5 pom poms which are joined together, with a simple face added. If you don't have any wool at hand, ask your child to draw a picture of Kipsy who could join in during the sessions.

