

EYFS Home Learning Update - April 2020

We hope you had a lovely Easter. Thank you so much for the lovely videos which were sent to us. We LOVED them and it was wonderful to see all your amazing children. Thank you also for all your kind and appreciative comments too. They really mean a lot.

We also want to thank you for your valuable feedback when completing the home learning survey. We have been busy looking at ways we can make some subtle changes to the tasks sent home each week.

Moving forward, we will continue to set 3 tasks per day, totalling 15 over the week. We are increasing the number of maths tasks and will set more reading activities too (this comes under literacy). In addition to this, we are going to set an optional project which will run over the week, as well as making PE optional, which we are sure lots of you are already doing! We are also going to ensure there are more links to videos and games for the children to watch and complete. As well as this, we are going to send more videos from the teachers, covering lots of different aspects!

If you are finding it tricky to get everything done, please do not worry. We know you are all working as best as you can in the current climate. For those who want more to do at home, we will upload additional activities onto our school website, which will be optional.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily Tasks	Phonics Maths Religion	Phonics Literacy Maths	Phonics Literacy Maths	Phonics Literacy Religion	Phonics Literacy Maths
Weekly Task (Optional)	PE- Joe Wicks, The Ballet Coach, Cosmic Yoga, etc. Project- this may be something creative or something to investigate!				

In further response to your feedback, here are some of the other things we are going to do.

Setting task each week

Some parents said it would be beneficial to receive the timetable for the week in advance, in order to prepare any resources, ensure links work, etc. With this in mind, we are now going to send the task timetables on a Friday afternoon (except for this week- the task timetable will be sent out first thing tomorrow morning!)

Exercise books

If your child runs out of room with their home learning exercise books, they can continue their learning on paper or in another note book. If you don't have access to paper or a form of book which they can record their learning in, please email the school office, so we can arrange something for you.

Evidence Me

82% of parents who completed the survey said they were uploading photos and evidence onto Evidence Me. **This is fantastic!** We really love receiving photos of your children and finding out what they have been up to. Please remember to add some notes to your photos too, so we know what your child did, how much support they had and their achievements too! It might be something like this: "XXX counted 16 leaves in the garden independently, before making shapes out of them. XXX could name and describe a circle, square and triangle." The teachers will continue to approve the observations and add notes.

If you are still unsure of how to use Evidence Me, please follow the step by step guide below:

<http://help.evidence.me/parent-share/help-for-parents/>

Additional home learning activities

There are lots of additional resources and activities which can be found on our school website here:

<https://www.st-catherines.manchester.sch.uk/supporting-learning-at-home/>

Please note, we are working to upload even more things here, so bear with us!

Reading books

Please continue to share lots of stories at home with your children. It is just as important that children hear you reading, as well as talking about the books that have

been read and asking and answering questions to develop understanding and comprehension skills.

Lots of parents asked about school reading books. Unfortunately, due to the current climate, we are unable to set up a system whereby parents can come into school to get/ swap school reading books. However, we are going to try and set more reading tasks each week and there are also lots of great things online:

<https://www.vooks.com/parent-resources>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<https://teachyourchildtoread.co.uk/>

<https://www.risingstars-uk.com/subjects/reading-and-ebooks/rising-stars-reading-planet/reading-planet-online-library/sample-lessons>

If you were wanting to purchase some suitable reading books to have at home, which run alongside the children's developing phonetic awareness, Amazon have some great bundles. An example is:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Learn-Home-Reading-fiction-non-fiction/dp/0433006684/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=red+reading+books&qid=1587376241&s=books&sr=1-1

Lots of you have said how much you have enjoyed the staff story times which have been uploaded onto our Facebook page and school website. We plan to do lots more of these! But we are also looking into additional ways we can share story time with you. Again, please bear with us as we trial different ways to see how we can make this work. It might be possible for staff to record videos onto Evidence Me and send them to you!

Finally, if you are on Facebook, some good pages to follow are:

- Phonics Family
- Mr Mc- Early Years/ KEY Stage 1 - #makingmemories
- Anna Lucas- (She also has some *free* phase 2 phonics apps which you can download)

If you are on Instagram-

- Earlyyearsoutdoor

- Fun.phonics
- Creative.kids.play- live phonics sessions daily!
Phase 5- 9:40am (suitable for any Reception children wanting a challenge!)
Phase 3- 10:00am
Phase 2: 10:30

And some other super websites which have developed their websites to support learning at home are:

- BBC Bitesize:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

We hope this information is useful and provides some useful amendments to home learning. As always, we welcome your feedback and thank you for your continued support.

Mrs McCormick