

Dear parents,

I hope you and your family are healthy and well, and your homeschooling is proving successful. I am aware that your children may have finished the literacy and math work that I have already set you. Therefore, I have provided some additional work for them if they have managed to get through all the work they currently have. I provided a considerable amount of topic work last week, so I won't be providing anything additional for them to complete. However, the topics we would be covering were outlined in your homeschool packs. If your children want to do additional work on one of those topics, they could.

Additional to the work I am setting, you will hopefully have seen I am creating daily videos filled with exercises and ideas for you and your children to try. If you haven't seen these please let me know - email

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Literacy

While in school we undertake daily spellings - the more the children engage with their spellings the quicker they will learn new words, and importantly use those new words in everyday life. Try and get your children to engage in spellings once a day, even if it's just for 10 minutes.

Spellings

Popular spelling activities include: mini spelling stories (often based on the class book - but you can focus them on a book your children are reading, or a story they have written themselves), spelling scrabble, using spellings within sentences, drawing their spellings, explain what their spellings mean, crossword, hangman, and spelling 'battleships'. There are many other games you can play, I recommend looking online for other engaging ideas.

Reading

I also hope you and your children are still enjoying reading together. Like spellings, we always read in class because it exposes children to thousands of words. Based on research, reading 1 minute a day exposes you to 8,000 words a year, reading 4.6 minutes a day exposes you to 282,000 words a year, and reading 20 minutes a day exposes you to 1.8 million words a year. Ideally, children should be reading themselves. However, listening to an adult reading

and demonstrating good reading practice is also really important for their development.

I will also be adding more reading comprehension sheets too - please sit with your children and engage with them for these. In class we will often spend a week going over one sheet (15-20 minutes a day), reading through them and highlighting key words before answering the questions.

Writing

As stated in the homeschool pack, if we were in class still we would have moved onto descriptive writing. In one of my videos I give you just one idea for how to be creative when planning and writing your own stories.

Free writing is very powerful, and I encourage you and your children to engage in some creative story telling. These stories could be completely made up, or they could be based on topics of your choosing.

Maths

I hope you are doing well with your math work, I gave everyone a big math pack along with MyMaths work, however have created a second question pack. Unfortunately, school closed just before I was due to teach the children about money (value of coins/notes, trading with money, quantities etc...), but I have created a second maths question pack with a money focus (along with some general maths questions). Please use mark sheet to check your answers.

I strongly encourage you to spend some time teaching your children about money - play games, let them get hands on with money so they can see the coins and understand their value. I've seen a really nice and effective activity that you can play with your children.

- 1) If your children snack during the day, create small snack boxes for them. Every time they want a snack they have to trade some money (monopoly money works really well, or fake coins) for a snack. This teaches them about value of money and forces them to add and subtract in order to give the right amount of money. If you want to make this a bigger activity, you can create a shop with a list of snack and prices and you could always drag this out across the course of a week - it also helps you manage what your children are snacking on.

