

17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parents,

In view of the current circumstances and a possible school closure I have put together a list of websites/resources that the children can access to continue their learning at home. The children will each bring home a pack of printed resources today.

1. Reading – please continue to read a range of texts at home. Read books to your child or pick out words or phrases for them to read to you. These can be the school reading books (the children have each brought home additional book(s) today) or books you already have at home. Additionally you can sign up to a free account on <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> where you can access a range of reading e-books online. Please click on the enter site button of the “Oxford Owl at Home” section of the website and then click on ‘free books for 3-11 year olds.’ Please choose books that are within the 3-4 or 4-5 age bracket or the Phase 2 or Phase 3 phonics bands.
2. Phonics – please use your child’s phonics pack (in their bookbag) to practise all the sounds and words we have covered so far. Additionally you may wish to visit <https://www.letters-and-sounds.com/> or <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> (both free) or <https://www.phonicshero.com/> (this site does require a subscription but you can have a free 7 day trial) where you can find a range of games, resources and worksheets to support each phonics sounds.
3. Maths – count everything and practice writing and ordering numbers. Play numbergames in context – E.g. You have 4 carriages on your train, what would happen if 2 more joined? Or Look there are 5 pieces of your orange left. You’ve already eaten 4. How many do you think you had to begin with?” There are some mathematical worksheets included the packs the children have brought home. Take a look at the website <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> for games to play. Select the tab “Learning Games” along the top and then the 3-5 section. Most of the games here are tablet-friendly too.
4. Play and talk – please use this time to enhance your children’s learning through lots of play based activities. There is a grid of learning ideas included in your pack but you could also do things like; bake cakes, make dens, recycle packaging to make models, blow bubbles, investigate floating and sinking in the bath, play and create music and dance and sing, paint, make/play with playdough, bug hunt in the garden etc.

Additional resources:

- Alphablocks - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks?page=2>  
Numberblocks - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>  
Lots of games, crafts and resources to support phonics and maths as well as episodes of Alphablocks and Numberblocks to watch. More can be found on iPlayer, Youtube or the

Cbeebies channel. There is also an Alphablocks app.

- Teach Your Monster to Read - a reading/phonics app available across most platforms. It does require a subscription at the moment but may become available for free, given the current circumstances.
- Twinkl - <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>  
An educational website with thousands of resources all of which have been made freely accessible by signing up to a free account. Filter by age, year group, resource type, topic etc.
- Chatterpix Kids – another free app to encourage ICT skills. Take a photo, draw a mouth and make it talk. Lots of fun to be had here.

Please do upload any of the activities you do onto your child's Tapestry account.

If you have any questions I will be available via email until the start of the Easter holidays. My email is [swinchester@brabourne.kent.sch.uk](mailto:swinchester@brabourne.kent.sch.uk).

Thank you for all your support in this difficult time.

Mrs S Winchester