



Writtle Infant School

A very special place, where learning has no limits.

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Hello everyone,

We wanted to let you know how we in Foundation Stage will be supporting you with home learning.

We will be communicating through Tapestry each day. We will be sending activities to do at home linked to phonics, maths and topic based learning linked to our Poetry Basket. We will also be sending ideas of fun family things to do, to keep you going!

Please make sure you can log on to Tapestry and Bug club. We will be putting reading books on once a week. Make sure you keep reading at home, 'real' story books are so important too.

We have sent home an exercise book for your child to use when they are doing any activities that have to be written down. We have also sent home your child's next words and sounds folder. Please go through them as we have each week, only a few at a time. Can you highlight the ones they are working on and tick when they know them please. As usual please keep going over the old words and sounds too.

We have also sent home the Poetry Basket booklets, sounds and numbers that you can cut up to use. We have also put in a wallet with a tens frame, part whole model and 10 counters. These will need to come back to school so please take care of them. We will be asking you to use them sometimes in our maths posts.

Please look each day on Tapestry, we will aim to post before 10 am each day. We will also sign post you to websites for ideas.

Please don't feel it is necessary to replicate a school day although a routine may be helpful for you. At school we try to have long periods of play sprinkled with times we get together to have focussed learning times. An example might be: Start the day with a phonics activity then play... Before lunch practise handwriting. After lunch a short maths session then play, then at the end of the day story time. This however is only a guide and do what fits in with your family routine. You might want to do 'work' in the morning and play in the afternoon. Don't forget children still need to be outside getting fresh air. For those who cannot go outside, find ways to be as active as possible within the home.

There is a Facebook group called 'Family Lockdown Tips and ideas' which might help.

The following websites should be able to help you too:

Letters and sounds.com – you can print off the sounds and tricky words to play games like snap and memory games. There are games to play on there too.

Phonics play

Numberblocks

50 things to do before you are 5 – it is an App you can download

Spread the happiness 100 things to do indoors

Kids should see this

Stay at home storytime with Oliver Jeffers

Our values: Honesty, Independence, Perseverance, Inclusivity, Politeness
School documents can be printed, translated, or made available in alternative formats (e.g. large print), on request.



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England



Cbeebies

Twinkl – is free for a month!

Josh Gad is on twitter every night reading books – look out for more authors doing this

There are some museums doing virtual tours

Our Advice is;

Trust your child

Embrace boredom and let your child work through it. (for some it will truly be hard work.)

Understand that you do not need to entertain your child.

Remember that the parts of child led play that make adults most uncomfortable are generally the most beneficial parts. Do not solve every problem for them, don't stop their bickering, let them test various social and debate techniques. Basically bite your tongue!

Embrace the fact that child-driven play IS learning, it is not a waste of a child's time.

Adults directing child's play can be a waste of time and harmful if overdone.

Remember too, that this is a stressful time for you and your child. In an assembly this week it became clear that the children had many concerns about the virus especially worrying that they or their families might die as a consequence. They had all heard bits and pieces on the TV and radio. We did our best to take their fears seriously and listen to what they had to say. We spoke about old people who might have to stay indoors for a long time to avoid catching the virus. Many of the children told us about elderly family members and neighbours that they are helping. We emphasised that all the children are safe from this disease as they are so young and we talked about handwashing and hygiene.

Your children will need you to be calm and take control during this time. They will need lots of cuddles, stories and reassurance. Try not to worry about them falling behind at school. They cannot learn while stressed so that must be your primary concern. Although these are strange times your child may very well remember them as the best of times.

Please keep in contact with us and if you are finding it hard, or have any suggestions. Please email us at:

Foxes@writtle-inf.essex.sch.uk

Squirrels@writtle-inf.essex.sch.uk

See you on Tapestry!

Best wishes,

Mrs Fisk and Mrs Giles