



More useful links for learning at home

30.3.2020

Dear parents and carers,

At school we have been offering provision for the children of key workers and children in specific groups after our deep clean. We have several staff self-isolating for different reasons and so organisation has been difficult – I know many of you will be facing similar challenges in your work places too. The sun has shone and we have all been grateful as it has meant we have been able to make the most of being active outside. Nature seems to be reclaiming the school grounds– I've seen mallards in the playground, blackbirds nesting in a bush and many a goose flying low overhead. Little pleasures to make us stop and smile. I hope you are finding time to stop and smile too.

This is an unprecedented time for lots of reasons but it could very well be the time children remember as the best in their lives because of the time they have with you. Whilst supporting your child through learning at home is helpful to their education, it is important to add, arguing with your child to do work might make your child feel overwhelmed. Please try to find a balance that is right for you so you can enjoy spending time together.

Please do cuddle up together and read, read, read! Take turns reading. Read them a novel, your favourite book from childhood, poetry, a fact book about their favourite animals. Do a puzzle. Build a fort in the garden if you have space. Bake. Paint by numbers. Play a board game. Create a board game. Invent a superhero. Create a comic strip. Watch TV together and talk about it. Set a tent up in the living room and camp out (or should that be in!). Look at photos of friends and family and special days and remember together.

In our last assembly together we talked about the importance of being kind and forgiving when at home. Children are brilliant at this. I hope these values abound in your house at this difficult time.

With kind regards,
Zoe Avastu

More useful links and freebies for home learning:

Audio books:

*Amazon have made their children's audiobooks free of charge while schools have closed.

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Daily timetables:

*Twinkl have produced daily timetables for home learning with activities and lessons which they are updating daily. These include live video for teaching of phonics and maths alongside matching activities.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/home-learning-hub>

Sports:

*PE with MrC. Live stream daily PE lesson at 10am with primary PE teacher from a local school
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCO77ENn1E2YqLQoekO_faQQ

Information from Mr and Mrs Holloway:

- Primary Dance Classes – Tuesdays 10:30am to 11am & Fridays 10:30am to 11am – Jacqui Holloway
- Primary Sport/Fitness – Wednesdays 10:30am to 11am – Matt Holloway

The classes will be designed so you don't need any equipment and can be done in a small space. We hope your children have a lot of fun taking part and you are all welcome to join in with them as well.

You will need to run zoom . It is free to join and you just need to create an account and download the software. <https://zoom.us/> The reason for using this and not other streaming platforms is it gives a better connection and clearer image with our internet.

The classes will suggest a charge of £1, but for those who are struggling financially at this time they are happy to give a chance to take part with a minimal amount a family can afford. To take part in the classes please email info@balance-hf.co.uk to book and they will give you the details of how to make payment and a link for each class 30 minutes before they start.