

26th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that both you and your family are well and are managing during these unprecedented times; you all remain in the thoughts and prayers of all of our staff.

This week our pupils have been working hard on the tasks set for them on the school's *Google Drive* and, although this can never replicate the learning which they usually undertake in the classroom, I am sure that they have continued to learn and develop their academic abilities.

Many of our teachers are trying to support their own children with 'home learning' and we understand that it can be a challenge to organise a child's workload, the amount of time they spend on a task or review the work they have completed. In light of this, we have decided to adjust the way in which we set work for children whilst the school remains closed. These will be available from Monday. Please remember:

This is just a guide. We know how difficult it is to establish routines at home, so we hope you find this useful. If you are happy with what you have planned, please continue as you see fit. Our intention is to support you and help establish a set routine. Rather than swamp families with links to online resources, we want to provide a weekly overview that shows how these can be used.

The important points to note are:

- Each week a *Microsoft Powerpoint* presentation will be uploaded for each year group. This will include a slide containing instructions for English, Mathematics, other curriculum areas and online daily classes. You can see examples of these slides below and they will remain almost identical for each year group.
- Our teachers have tried to share relevant high-quality and straight-forward online-hosted activities which should give clarity to exactly what task a pupil should be undertaking and how long they should be spending on it.
- As the *Powerpoint* is changed each week, some tasks will remain and others will be adjusted; please keep a close eye out for any new tasks or activities.
- You will need to open up the slideshow as 'read only' as it is password protected. This will prevent any pupils adjusting the document in error.
- Each task suggests a time to spend on activities. This is a guide; you must decide what is appropriate for your child.
- All of the tasks which teachers have already set for pupils will remain in the *Google Drive* but will be moved into 'archive' folders. They can be worked through as additional tasks to the ones set in the weekly *Powerpoint*.

Reading Scheme

We now have access to an online reading scheme called Reading Planet. Each child will have a unique username and password. Each week, class teachers will assign pupils with two new books to read. The online books have parent discussion points and short quizzes to complete for each text that is read. Please continue to read on daily basis with your child to ensure they maintain stamina and fluency and continue to make good progress with their reading and comprehension skills.

To access the online reading scheme please go to: <https://my.risingstars-uk.com/>

Each child's username will be their first initial followed by their surname. Every child has the same password which is *abc123*. Example:

Example:

John Smith

USERNAME: J Smith (capitals and spacing is important)

or

J Smith Brown or J Smith-Brown (if your child has double barrelled surname)

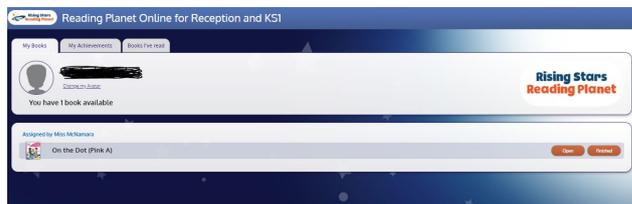
PASSWORD: abc123

Once you have logged in to your account, you will see the page in the image below.



If your child is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please click on the Reception and KS1 icon. If your child in Year 3 – Year 6, please click on KS2 icon.

Once you have clicked on the icon, it will take you to the page which your books have been assigned. Click on the book to read and follow the instructions on the pages.



Take the check point quizzes and the final quiz at the end.



I hope that you will find the changes which we are making to our 'home learning' useful. Our staff are keen to ensure that their pupils are able to continue to learn during these difficult times. We will constantly review our provision of children's work to ensure that the very best opportunities are offered to the pupils of St. Philip's.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Barrett

Headteacher

Miss McNamara

Assistant Headteacher

Mr J Cooper

Senior Lead Teacher (KS2)

Examples of the slides:

| English | | |
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| Topic | What To Do | How Long to Spend |
| Spelling  | Use: www.spellingshed.com and work through the Upper KS2 spelling list. | Around 20 minutes each day. Have a break afterwards. |
| Writing  | Use: www.pobble365.com and work through the different activities. Maybe pick a different one each day. There are five sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story starter • Sentence challenge • Question time • Perfect picture • Sick sentences | Around 40 minutes each day (the website changes the picture / tasks every day). Have a break afterwards. |
| Reading  | Listen to: https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevens/es/ Listen to it then undertake an activity, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a book review • Write a sequel • Create a character description • Make a vocabulary list • Write to David Walliams with your thoughts • Write a diary entry as one of the characters Additionally, you can read through your school reading book and then any suitable book from home. | Around 40 minutes each day (the story changes each day). Have a break afterwards. |

| Maths | | |
|---|---|---|
| Topic | What To Do | How Long to Spend |
| Whitrose Maths Homelearning  | Use: https://whitrosemaths.com/homelearning/year-6/ and work through the five lessons set this week. Watch the video, answer the questions and use the answers to mark yourself. | Around 20 minutes per day. Have a break afterwards. |
| Maths shed  | Use: https://www.mathshed.com/en-gb and log-on using you usual <i>Spelling Shed</i> password. You can play various maths games. Your teacher will set some for you too. | Around 20 minutes per day. Have a break afterwards. |
| The Maths Factor  | Use: https://www.themathsfactor.com/ and ask a parent to sign-up for you. There are daily video lessons led by Carol Vorderman and questions for you to complete. | Around 20 minutes per day. Have a break afterwards. |
| Timestables Rockstars /  | Use: https://ttrockstars.com/ and https://www.rmeasimaths.com/ using your usual log-on and work through the questions. Which pupil will have the fastest time?! | To be worked on when the above tasks are finished. Have a break afterwards. |