School closure work:



Welcome to the month of May! This year seems to be flying by and we can’t believe we are already in the Summer term. We hope you are all staying safe and well – We are missing the children dearly! We have loved seeing all the wonderful pictures of the learning they have been doing at home. Please continue to add them to Tapestry and also, sign up to class dojo if you haven’t already.

Below are some ideas for activities to do at home but please do what suits you and your child and please do not feel under pressure to complete everything.

RE



We think about Mary every day of the year through prayer. But during the month of May, Mary is specially celebrated by devotions around the world. Being the Mother of Jesus was not an easy task. Mary’s life was full of great joys and great sorrows. By praying to Mary, we can see the way to love Jesus more deeply and appreciate how much he loves us. We think about Mary the Mother of Jesus by saying the special prayer ‘The Hail Mary’. Please encourage your child to say or sing this prayer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PglEF7mTf2E>

(This prayer may be new to the children as we have not learnt it in class yet)

Our topic for this half term is ‘New Life’. As a follow on from understanding the Easter story, the children need to be familiar with the story of Jesus meeting Mary Magdalene at the tomb. We have attached a Word document with this story on which you can share with your child (see tab on website in Reception class page). Alternatively, there is a short animation on the following YouTube link should you wish to show a video rather than tell the story yourself:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLCfH2HkNn4>

To give the children the opportunity to reflect on the story, please ask questions such as:

1. Why was Mary crying at the tomb?
2. Was she surprised to see Jesus? If so, why would she be surprised?
3. What did Jesus ask Mary to do?
4. Have you ever had to give an important message to somebody before?

Can the children draw a picture of Jesus and Mary at the tomb? As a challenge, they could write a simple caption underneath such as ‘Mary was sad’ ‘Jesus was gone’ ‘Mary met Jesus’.

Remember to say your prayers each night, children and share your worries with Jesus.

Here is the Our Father we sing in class:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnUs5s33iqw>

Here is another song we sing that is all about the special gifts God has given us:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3iG1gkW9R0>

Literacy/Phonics

The theme for this half term is Adventures and the children would have been hearing stories about superheroes. If you have any stories about superheroes or bravery, please share these. Some suggestions for good books are Traction Man, Toys in Space, Supertato, There’s no Dragon in this story, Zog, Max the Brave, Be Brave Little Penguin.

Please continue to practise reading and writing the set 1/2 sounds daily – please use the sounds we sent home on the treasury tags or the orange phonics book. Also, practise reading the tricky words.

Remember that Ruth Miskin has a daily phonics lesson on YouTube and follows the same format of teaching as we do in class: <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/help-during-school-closure/>

Fun phonics games can be found here:

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>

Remember to practise reading every day. Here are some reading strategies to help the children learn how to read:

1. Use Freddie fingers and your blending hand to sound out/decode words.
2. Look at the first sound of the word.
3. Use pictures for clues.
4. Read the whole sentence and think what would make sense.
5. Chop longer words up and sound blend both parts then put it back together. E.g playing – p-l-ay is ‘play’… i-ng is ‘ing’ so play and ing makes ‘playing’.

Maths

* Practise counting up to and back from 20.
* Place the numbers 1-20 in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number.
* Using quantities and objects, can the children add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer? Encourage the children to record their work – e.g 2 spoons plus 3 spoons makes 5 spoons so 2+3=5
* Count forward and back from any given number.

Here are some useful links to the fun maths activities White Rose offers:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/easter-fun/>

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/early-years/>

Another good website offering home learning activities and games is:

<https://classroomsecrets.co.uk/home-learning-centre/>

You need to sign up (it’s free) and then you should be able to access lots of nice interactive maths games and activities, again look for EYFS/Reception for those suitable for your child. They also have some phonics games on there too.

PE

Have you tried P.E with Joe Wicks at 9am every week day? This is a fun workout and something the whole family can join in with. Oti Mabuse (from Strictly Come Dancing) also has a dance class every day at 11.30 on YouTube for all the family to have a go at.

Cosmic kids yoga on You Tube is also really good. There are lots of fun videos to practice stretching, balancing, and relaxation. Give them a go on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

Understanding the world



On Friday 8th May, the whole country will be celebrating 75 years since VE Day (Victory in Europe). Please explain the meaning behind this historic event to your child. This would be a good opportunity for the children to learn about what it means to be brave. How are they brave? When are the times they need to be brave? Can they think of anyone who is brave? This could be a real or fictional character. What makes that person brave? Perhaps your child could make some bravery badges for people in their family who show acts of bravery.

It is also a great opportunity to look at people who help us such as doctors/nurses, police, firefighters, lollipop men and women and so on. How do these people keep us safe? Perhaps the children can carry out some role-play and set up their own setting such as a hospital or police station and pretend to be those people who keep us safe.

Twinkl have provided lots of ideas for learning opportunities for VE day so feel free to explore those. Here are some ideas:

* Create some bunting with the union jack on.
* Decorate some paper cups.
* Make some yummy jam sandwiches or decorate some biscuits with blue, red and white icing.
* Make some party hats.
* Colour in a picture of Queen Elizabeth and learn about her family.
* Look at how life was different for children living in the past – toys/clothes/homes.

Useful Links:

A new website with excellent resources for home learning is:

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>

You don’t need a login for that one just search by age/class so anything labelled EYFS or Reception should be suitable for you child.

[www.twinkl.co.uk/offer](http://links.support.twinkl.co.uk/mps2/c/AQE/8PUmAA/t.300/c_DcZ8CQR2a3ikayhZE7BQ/h5/EbC1nPf9k9D5DT3zk18lxBwa1fOubB7v8tpG7jFvX-2BAUbtuFWZqRQucggCq4xkD-2BcXZRVhMv6jRDtAXDkJfo-2BPY39Pl6rzJj5RA8l-2F0Qx-2FCzSr9pQYnMx4bDRHoRjtx58TgTNoxVwIaiLQOwCcgoFrZESzWLGKFC9aW-2BDxP8Ujewz8bjIb3B-2FBabtDYgZrZH-2BppJEGTLsebmX-2FklyFSeWg-3D-3D/VrqK) and enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

[www.purplemash.com](http://www.purplemash.com)

<https://www.educationcity.com/>

(Remember your child’s log in details were sent home on the last week)

You should also have received an email with a login for [www.myon.co.uk](http://www.myon.co.uk)

This is a website with e-books for your child to read. They can also answer questions about what they have read. Please do login and take advantage of this as it’s a really good resource for reading and as teachers we can have a look at what books your child is reading too.

We wish you all well and if you need to ask anything, remember we can communicate via Classdojo.

Take care,

Mrs Bolton and Mrs Locker