



# Ideas for Home Learning for Year 4

Week beginning: 30<sup>th</sup> March

## Structure of the Day

### How much work should we be doing each day?

We know that different families are going to be in very different situations. For some, ideas for activities to do at home will be very welcome. Some children find it a lot easier to work at home than others.

We do not want the ideas here to create additional strain in what may already be difficult circumstances for some families. What follows is therefore just a guide. The idea is not to replicate a school day for the children.

So the answer to the question “how much should we be doing each day” will vary from family to family and child to child.

### Some basic principles are:

- Keep it varied – shorter periods doing a range of different activities with breaks in between help the children focus; so swap between activities
- Keep it fun – if your child is losing focus or enthusiasm, switch to a different subject or have a break
- A bit of structure can help – pick start and finish times that work for your child and work for you
- But be adaptable and realistic – there is no point creating stress and conflict; better to do less and it be a positive experience that feels successful than more and it feel like a chore
- Praise your child's efforts
- Don't over-correct work that children have done – better to praise what is right and pick one or two examples of mistakes that your child can learn from. Pointing out everything that is wrong demoralises and demotivates and gets in the way of learning instead of helping it.
- If children develop a particular interest in a project or topic and want to dedicate their time to that rather than other suggestions for work, then let them follow their interest.

### What should we be trying to achieve?

We are really aiming for:

- Children to have the opportunity to practice and consolidate existing skills and knowledge
- Children to be able to explore their context for learning and different national curriculum subjects

### How do we do this?

Overleaf are various ideas of activities you can do with your child. It is not a checklist to be ticked off. You don't have to do it all. The following is a suggested outline, but please do what works for your child. We would suggest doing:

- three to four activities a day
- breaks in between
- these activities to include some reading every day
- some mathematics at least three times per week; this could include playing a maths game on line, rote learning of number facts (e.g. multiplication tables, number bonds depending upon age) as well as any specific activity set by the teacher)
- some writing activity at least three times per week
- some of the other activities that the teacher has set.
- Also, if you are struggling to get out of the house and get some exercise, you can do one of the “Five a Day” Fitness activities at home – log in details overleaf (please do not forward to parents who are not at St Matthew's).

We will be sending this document out with updates on a weekly basis except during school holiday periods. Some sections will be updated each week, others (for example the “Possible Projects”) will change when the context for learning changes.

## Our Context for Learning

### Our context for learning this half term is *The Romans*.

You will find some fuller details by looking at our Curriculum Framework for Year 4. Our latest curriculum framework can also be found on the St Matthew's Website at

[http://www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/curriculum\\_1/185652](http://www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/curriculum_1/185652)

## Ideas for Activities

### Reading



Regular reading each day is one of the most important things that children can be doing at home. There are various ways for your child to keep reading regularly. We encourage your child to read their reading book every day.

Children also each have a log-in for Bug Club that they can use to access things to read and associated activities. We will endeavour to make sure they are regularly assigned books appropriate for their level.

Being read to by another person is also important so please try set aside 20 minutes each day for reading with your child.

### Writing



In our English lessons, we have been studying a book called *'The Dam' by David Almond*. Attached is a sheet with a choice of three more writing activities to choose from. Please complete at least one activity this week. You may want to complete an activity from last week instead or as well.

Your child may wish to do some free writing of their own choice.

### Mrs Wordsmith (Vocab work)

We thought some of you would be missing our Mrs. Wordsmith work, so each week we will tell you the two words that we would like you to explore.

This week's words are: **flabby**                      **overcast**

See attached activity sheet/ideas

## Spellings

Please see attached spelling list for Year 3/4. Please practise each word carefully. These spellings are for using over the next term, so please practise regularly. There are lots of spelling activities on Espresso, Purple Mash and top Marks as well.

## Mathematics

**Decimals:** This week we begin Block 4 of our Spring Term learning on Decimals. There are 10 teaching steps in total. Each step may take longer than one lesson, the important thing is for children to really understand each step before moving on to the next step.

**This week we would like you to look at the first three steps.** White Rose maths (which we use resources from in school lessons) have put together **video lessons for children** and adults to watch and then complete activity sheets about the step covered.

**Follow the link to the White Rose home learning page.** If you click on Year 4, you will find the first 3 lessons linked to our topic of Decimals. There are also worksheets available for you to complete and answers to check afterwards. Here is the link: <https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>

Please try to watch the video teaching lessons for a step, then try the activities, if your child gets stuck please re-watch the lesson, answers are available on the site. **Activity sheets can be printed out or if you cannot print please complete in your homework books or on paper.** Please try to watch all three lessons even if you don't get chance to complete the sheets.

If you require further help on decimals or some worksheets to consolidate understanding please look on the **Espresso site** for lots of videos, activities and sheets to help.

[https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/primary\\_uk/subject/module/frontscreen/item495659/grade2/index.html](https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/primary_uk/subject/module/frontscreen/item495659/grade2/index.html)

After the Easter holidays we will continue with Decimals steps 4-10, so please do not do these yet!

**If your child would like an additional challenge**, please find the 'Nrich Challenges and Problems' suggested decimals tasks and activities. (Attached sheet with links)

### On-going work (some each week if possible):



**Times tables** – Continue to learn and practise times tables up to 12 x 12. When you know each times table try to develop your speed of recall of multiplication facts and related division facts.

- There are lots of activities to support learning and developing speed of recall of times tables facts on Purple Mash and **Espresso**

[https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/modules/m2\\_fact\\_tester/index.html?source=subject-](https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/modules/m2_fact_tester/index.html?source=subject-Maths-KS2-Maths-Resource%20types)

[Maths-KS2-Maths-Resource%20types](https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/modules/m2_fact_tester/index.html?source=subject-Maths-KS2-Maths-Resource%20types) lots of times tables activities, support grids, games and challenges

- **Top marks website** is also useful, particularly the **Hit the button activities** <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> timed and untimed times tables and division facts activities, fantastic for developing speed of recall
- <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> speed tests in style of Year 4 tables checks (scheduled for June 2020 but now cancelled) good to really test speed of recall

## Science

Our topic this term is **Sound**.

1. See attached sheet with video links, quizzes and ideas for activities on sound.
2. Log into purple mash and check your 2Dos. Choose one or more of the following activities to complete:
  - Can you label the human ear?
  - Sounds quiz
  - Can you design your own investigation on sound proofing?

## Online Learning Materials

Children may find the following online resources interesting. Some relate to our context for learning, others are to do with specific subjects like mathematics.

Espresso ([www.discoveryeducation.co.uk](http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk)) is an online learning resource which we use in school across the curriculum. We now have free access for all parents and children to use at home. Log in details are below.

**Username:** student6144

**Password:** matthews10

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> excellent maths games, but lots of activities for all curriculum areas

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar> spelling and grammar activities

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwmpfg8> Romans information and video clips

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Romans.html> Roman resources for children

## Romans Context

We have now reached the end of our Romans context and for our final week we would like you to look at **the impact of the Romans on Britain**.

- Please see attached activity sheet which contains links to a video and fact sheet about the Romans impact on Britain. The children will then need to try to answer the key Question... **What impact did the Romans have on Britain?**

## Possible Projects

Below are some ideas for *possible* projects that your child can do related to our context for learning and foundation subjects. Some of these could take some time and are designed to be done over a period of days.

**Art task:** create a piece of artwork to represent the Dam (our English text).

This could be a drawing, a painting, pastels, sewing or anything else to represent images or ideas in the book.

## **Roman activity (continued from last week)**

Make a board game, card game or quiz based on our topic on Romans. This could be similar to the games we have played in class.

## Five a Day Fitness Activities

5-a-day Fitness is a collection of online 5-minute follow-along fun fitness routines with an array of different themes, from Pirates to Superheroes, and Pop to Jive. Resources can easily be used at any time, in most spaces, and without any physical equipment.

Cross-curricular language learning resources are available in French, Spanish and Welsh, and can also be easily used at home. These language videos have MFL voice-overs and optional on-screen Key Word translations, thereby improving language reading and listening skills.



The Time-2-Chill resources are 2-minute follow-along routines concentrating on relaxation, imagination, co-ordination and mindfulness, a great way to assist well-being.

There's no preparation required, simply log in, select a video routine, join in, have fun, get fit and learn at home!

**IMPORTANT: \*THESE LOGIN DETAILS ARE TO BE USED BY PARENT/CARERS AND PUPILS FROM YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL ONLY. \*DO NOT SHARE THESE LOGIN DETAILS WITHIN ANYONE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME/IMMEDIATE FAMILY.**

The home access username and password for parents/carers and pupils of St Matthew's is:

**USERNAME: 5-a-dayAtHome**

**PASSWORD: AtHome123**

We hope that your first week of home learning has gone well. Please remember these are only suggested activities and resources; feel free to do other things or different tasks that your child is interested in and work at their own pace. **We do not expect them to complete everything.**

**We will be sending new information every Monday during term time.** Please note that this means we will not be setting work over the Easter holidays.

Please explore the excellent resources for learning to be found on **Purple Mash and Espresso**. There are lots of excellent resources, activities, videos and games for all areas of the curriculum and beyond.

Children can record any work in their homework books, on paper or another pad or type work on the computer.

Please email us if you have any questions or log- ins do not work and we will try to get back to you as soon as we can. We will be checking work emails each day, however please remember we will be in school some days supervising some children and we will also be involved with looking after and helping our own children at home.

Thank you for all of your support this term and we wish you well over the holidays. ***The next learning pack will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April (first day of summer Term)***

Kind regards,

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