

Dear Parents/Carers,

If school closes or you are self-isolating with your child, here are some ideas and resources for developing their literacy:

Twinkl have made many resources free to parents due to school closures. There are resources available to support with different subjects and all Primary year groups.

www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/parents/extra-subjects-parents/school-closures-category-free-resources-parents

Reading:



Check out the library for audiobooks and ebooks using the BorrowBox app (see link for more information). If you can still go there the Library has high interest low reading age books such as the Barrington Stoke series. Your librarians can advise, and there's the help page for online services:

<https://new.brighton-hove.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-arts/libraries/borrow-electronic-books-and-audiobooks>

You can also register with the RNIB's free talking books service. Information is here:

<https://readingservices.rnib.org.uk/>

Choose a challenging longer book to read together. Do most of the reading to your child with them just joining in as much as they can.

Reading Eggs is a reading program with online reading games and activities. They are offering a free 30 day trial due to school closures. See <https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Oxford Owl have free online eBooks organised by age: www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home

Writing:

Make a creative journal/scrapbook. Encourage as much cutting, sticking and illustrating as possible.

Encourage them to **keep a diary** – secret or not! A special book, or pens will encourage this.

Make a creative **PowerPoint**. Unleash their IT skills!

Write them notes and hide them in unexpected places – when your child finds the note they write a reply and leave it for you. You could also encourage your child to write notes to friends and family and take photos of these to send.



Spelling

If your school has provided spellings to learn try learning these in multisensory ways e.g. use coloured pens/paint to highlight 'tricky' parts of words, throwing and catching a ball to each say a letter and sequence the letters in a word or making the word with pipe cleaners, play doh etc.

There are also many apps which you can use to practise spellings such as Squeebles, free Whiteboard apps (just search for whiteboard in the app store) and the Writing Wizard app which supports children with practising their spellings and handwriting.

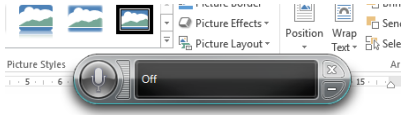
Websites such as Phonics Play have decided to make their website free so children can practice applying their phonics knowledge www.phonicsplay.co.uk Letters and Sounds also have games split into different phonic levels www.letters-and-sounds.com

IT

Get them typing. We recommend the free BBC Touch typing game 'BBC Dance mat', 'Typing Club' or the typing program on 'Doorway Online', but feel free to search for other touch typing games.

If your child has a phone have fun **exchanging texts**. The predictive text function can really help.

Have fun using **voice recognition** to talk to 'virtual' assistants like Siri, or Cortana. This will help children to speak more clearly, hear and pronounce all the sounds in words. (Supervision is important!)



Use the **speech recognition function in Windows** to try to dictate a piece of writing. Do this with your child and have fun trying to make it work. Dictation is harder than you think! You can find this app in Windows 10 by typing 'windows speech recognition' into the search bar at the bottom of the screen. You can also

dictate into apps such as Notes, Pages and Google Docs.

Stay in touch!

We will be making and finding out about new resources as time goes on. If you would like to keep in touch please email me on rosecarter@lss.schmail.uk

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