

Summer Homework

Whilst it is important to keep children's brains working over the holidays to avoid their attainment dipping – often known as the 'summer dip' - we appreciate that holidays are special family times and do not wish to overload people with lots of homework. Therefore we have compiled some ideas for short, snappy activities that your children can do to keep up with their school work without interfering with the fun of the holidays! You can do as much or as little as you feel your child needs. These do not need to be handed in next term but are simply ideas to keep children's brains ticking over the holidays.

Reading

Regular reading is important. Children should read lots of their favourite type of books to encourage an interest in reading, but they should also try reading a range of different books, such as poetry and non-fiction too. If you would like some help with the kinds of texts that children might enjoy and find informative, we have attached a recommended book list. Many of these books are available at the library. Please note that these are only suggestions: by no means do we expect children to read them all!

It really helps to develop children's comprehension skills and deepen their understanding of what they have read if they discuss what they have read with an adult. It also helps them to enjoy books more when they can discuss them with someone else!



Why not try the Lancashire Library Summer Reading Challenges!



This website also contains recommendations for children which can be filtered by age.

Spellings

A common problem with spellings is that children learn them for the test and then forget them. Quick quizzes that remind children of spellings they have learnt over the year can help keep tricky spellings in children's minds over the holidays. The class blogs contain the spellings your child has learnt. These are the words they could practise over the holidays. These can also be turned into a game, for example by the adult spelling the first letter, the child the 2nd, the adult the 3rd and so on. Scrabble and Boggle are also fantastic games to improve spellings in a fun way.

Online spelling games:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/spellits/activities/activity3.shtml>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar> - the bar at the top allows you to pick a year group

Times Tables

Short bursts of daily practice (eg. 10 minutes a day) can prevent your child forgetting key spellings and number facts learned this year, ensuring that they start the next academic year in the best possible place. Times tables are essential for many aspects of maths. Pupils are meant to know all of the times tables up to 12x12 by Year 6 and to recall them quickly. As well as being able to say them, they need to know related number facts. Eg. If they know $3 \times 5 = 15$, they also know that $5 \times 3 = 15$ and $15 \div 3 = 5$ and $15 \div 5 = 3$.

Ideas for games:

Number Plates: multiply together single digit numbers on number plates (great as a game for family holidays while in the car)

Speed Times Tables: who can write their times tables down the fastest? This could also be a Beat The Clock activity with a timer

Roll the Dice: roll 2 dice and multiply the numbers together OR choose a times table (eg 6s) and roll 2 dice and multiply the total on the dice by 6.

Keep Fit Times Table Challenge: children jog on spot/star jumps/hop etc while reciting times tables

Online maths games: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>