



The Hills Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all found ways to enjoy the sunshine this weekend whilst keeping a distance from everyone. I think there was a lot of ingenuity this Mother's Day!

Thank you to all those who were able to find ways to keep your children at home – at one point we had well over 100 children coming in which was worrying from the point of view of keeping our community safe, but the numbers this morning were much lower than that.

Home learning

All the activities for this week are on the website – you need to go to 'Our learning' and choose the right year groups and scroll down. It might be tempting to dip into year groups above your child's age but please don't because they will end up with skill gaps – you can always enrich and extend (although there is plenty to be going on with). If your child is struggling with the work then it is perfectly ok to dip into the year below to reinforce and revise.

The computing curriculum will be added tomorrow; apologies for the delay. Please do not feel you have to do it all – it'll be tough if you are working from home too. All you can do is what you can do and we will catch all the children up when they come back to school in the autumn.

Don't forget that the school calculation policy is on the website and this explains exactly how we teach different mathematic skills – try to use this at home.

Some of the grammar terms in English might be new to you – most of us were never taught it in school. Don't panic, use a search engine and you will find simple explanations – they are not complicated really.

If you are finding the plans overwhelming or intimidating then please don't worry, we're working hard to simplify things for next week and I include a jargon buster below to be going on with. If you wish to go 'off-piste' in the meantime and allow your child to read, write and follow their own interests then please do.

Looking after the mental wellbeing of you and your child

Just a signpost to the lovely Jane Williams – a parent of our school and counsellor. She is doing some videos to support everyone. Worth a watch of her first one:

<https://www.janewilliamscounselling.com/resources>

Parent consultations

We have made the decision to postpone parent consultations until the autumn. We now need to care for the children of Key Workers and the vulnerable, including on Friday afternoon as well as insure that the learning support for you at home develops appropriately.

Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to a Free School Meal due to low income (not universal free school meals) we have ordered food parcels and these will be available on Thursday – you will be contacted individually to arrange collection.

Achieving Excellence Together

Teacher Speak Jargon Buster

| <u>Teacher speak/abbreviation</u> | <u>Meaning</u> | <u>Definition</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| LO | Learning objective | This is the intended learning outcome for the lesson |
| SC | Success criteria Also seen as SC1, SC2, SC3 – related to which number success criteria this is related to. | Usually 3 separate objectives that get progressively more difficult to help your children reach the learning objective |
| M/O | Mental/oral starter | A quick starter at the beginning of a lesson to get children's brain ready for learning |
| ARE Pupils | Age Related Expectation | This is the expected level for children to be working at in their specific year group |
| WAGOLL | What A Good One Looks Like | This is a good example of work for children to use to aid their own work. |
| PPT | PowerPoint Presentation | N/A |
| WOWO board | Write on Wipe off board | Whiteboards children use in class – this can be substituted for pencil and paper |
| Plenary | End of a lesson | This summarises the key points from the lesson and gives an opportunity to look through any difficulties that may have arisen in the lesson |
| Operation | Maths terminology – multiply, divide, add or subtract | N/A |
| DP | Decimal place | N/A |
| Mastery | Challenge | A mastery activity is 'one step beyond' the learning expectation. It is designed to give children a challenge. |
| I SAW A WABUB | Each letter stands for: If, Since, As, When, Although, While, After, Before, Until, Because. | fun acronym to help children to remember some of the main subordinating conjunctions to use in their writing |
| FANBOYS | Each letter stands for: For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet and So | An acronym to help children remember some of the main coordinating conjunctions to use in their writing |
| TA | Teaching Assistant | N/A |
| IWB | Interactive Whiteboard | Your computer screen is a good alternative |
| EXT | Extension | These are questions in addition to the main activity |
| Big Write | An extended piece of independent writing | N/A |
| New Concept | Something that the children have not been taught before | N/A |
| Differentiation | Different levels of work | Seen on planning as A, B, C and D. B is the 'expected level' A is more challenging and C and D are more accessible. |

All the very best

Moya

Free Websites and Apps to support with...

Mindfulness and Keeping Active



Smiling Mind

Short audio sessions to help with mindfulness.

<https://app.smilingmind.com.au/>



Cosmic Yoga - YouTube

Yoga videos designed for kids aged 3+

www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga



BBC Supermovers

Interactive videos to support with KS1 and KS1 Maths, Literacy and PSHE and PE learning. Great for times tables—as well as videos that are 'just for fun'.

www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers



Go Noodle—YouTube (More videos on their own website)

Hundreds of 'brainercise', dancing, strength and mindfulness videos—as well as videos that are 'just for fun'.

www.youtube.com/user/GoNoodleGames/featured



Premier League Stars

Videos and activities to support with Maths, Literacy, PSHE and PE.

www.plprimarystars.com



Newsround

Keeping children up to date with the world around them—creating opportunities to talk about the news with children.

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround