**English**

**Ways to Help at Home**

English focuses on essential literacy skills including Phonics, Reading, Writing and Speaking & Listening. There are lots of way you can help your child/ren at home in English.

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| **Positive Experiences** | Have fun, enjoy any activity you do at home and be as creative as you like!  Little, but often is best. |
| **What we are learning sheet** | Refer to the ‘What We Are Learning Sheet’ on the school’s website. Details of what your child is being taught that week is recorded there, along with the rest of your child’s subjects. You can use this to ask more specifically about their day. |
| **Phonics**  5 Minute Phonics Sheets | * At JHSW we follow Supersonic Phonic Friends (SSPF) * Your child will have a 5 Minute Phonics Sheet linked to their Phonics sent home weekly, linked to their previous week’s phonics lessons. * You might hear your child recall ditties for different sounds, please encourage them to use these and to share them with you. * You will see a varying number of sounds/words on your child’s sheet. You can focus on segmenting and blending these words (with the SSPF characters Bill and Ben), reading for speed, or applying that to spelling the words. * It’s very important to spend no longer than 5 minutes approximately a day. Little and often is best and in a fun way, e.g. colourful spellings, time challenge for how many words you can read in a minute, or a focus on a particular sound. * There are clues that might help you to ‘Choose to use’ a rule. * The sheets also include some Tricky Tess Words for you to practise, Sid’s Cheeky Challenge e.g. to make a silly sentence. Plus, a hint as to what’s coming next – A sneaky peak! |
| **Reading & Spelling**  High Frequency Words (HFW)  Tricky Words (TW)  Common Exception Words (CEW | * Each child has a sheet at home with their HFW and TW. The aim is for your child to read these for speed, from memory and confidently. * Once your child can read these words confidently, they should learn to spell them all. * This should be fun and again, little but often. * With Tricky Words you can’t use our phonics to sound them out. We have to work out what part(s) of the word is/are tricky. In class, we show the tricky part in ‘blue’ e.g. their * It’s important to regularly practise reading HFW, TW and Common Exception Words (these will follow in due course) and reach a level where your child can ‘Read them with Speed’. * Once your child can read these words, they must be able to spell them correctly. * You could create games. E.g. Roll and read, How many words in a minute? I spy…, Snap with words, Colourful spellings, Magnetic letters, Chalking outside words etc. |
| **Reading** | Reading Scheme Books   * By now, your child will have a reading scheme book. These books contain words that your child will either already recognise or be able to decode, consolidating their reading skills learnt in Year One. * Please share your child’s reading scheme book with them daily, where possible and write a comment in their diary. Reading diaries will be checked every week by an adult in school. It is important to focus on decoding, fluency (reading with speed and memory) and comprehension skills. * Regards comprehension, you could ask questions about vocabulary, make inference from the text, make predictions, explain thoughts and opinions on the text, retrieve key features of fiction or non-fiction texts and sequence key events in a story. * Also, we love to hear about other books your child may be reading at home from their own bookshelf or library. At school we really encourage Reading for Pleasure and not to see it as a chore, but something fun! It’s just important for your child to see you reading too. * Remind your child, there is so much more to books. It doesn’t just have to be a story book or fact book. Magazines, cook books, Instructions for Board Games are all reading material! Reading can also be done anyway – inside, outside, as long as your child is happy. It’s so important to nurture a love of books.   Story Time   * Remember it’s important to share stories with your child, at any time of the day, not just Bedtime! It’s such a special time for you and your child and can be so peaceful and take your imagination anywhere. Reading can help so much with your child’s reading, speaking and listening and writing too.   Library Book Club   * Your child will bring home a library book that they have chosen. This is a book for you to enjoy together and to encourage reading for pleasure. Your child might choose the same book more than once which we would encourage as it shows they enjoyed reading it! Your child will bring home their class library book each Friday. Please ensure your child returns their book each week so they can choose a new book to take home. |