

## End of Lower KS2 - What can I do to help my child at home?

Parents play a critical role in promoting academic success through parent-school involvement, stimulation of cognitive growth at home, and promotion of values consistent with academic achievement.

### Reading

Ensure your child is reading for 20 minutes every evening. Use the question stems (in the front of their Reading Record Book) to ask questions about the book so that your child can demonstrate their understanding of what they have read. Particularly focus on the 'Meaning of Words' and 'Inference'.

Whilst reading, stop and discuss: what has been happening, why characters are acting in certain ways and what they might be thinking.

Ask the children where in the text it has given them that information.

Encourage your children to ask if there is a word they are not sure of the definition.

### Writing

Insist on regular practice of the weekly spellings. When writing, encourage your child to read back their writing aloud, checking for accuracy and that sentences have been correctly punctuated.

Commonly used words should be spelt correctly, along with words containing previously learnt spelling rules. Encourage your child to form letters correctly, write in an appropriate size and to always take pride in their work and write neatly.

Reading regularly to your child, especially longer chapter books, is a great way to support their writing. You will be able to model the reading of longer, descriptive sentences while showing them where they end and a pause is taken.

### Maths

Encouraging regular practice of multiplication tables will prepare them for the end of year multiplication test. Having an analogue clock and helping them to tell the time and know how many minutes to the next hour. In recent years, there has been a decline in children's ability to add and subtract mentally. Playing card games, darts, many board games (which involve numbers) encourages / promotes the use of mental calculating.

Finally, please take an active role in their home learning. This is a great opportunity for children to explain to you what they have been learning about this week and for you to check your child's understanding. Children should maintain neat and legible handwriting and ensure work is presented well. This is also a great opportunity to celebrate their successes.

