

End of 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'. Encourage your child to add new vocabulary to their Reading Records which can then be applied in our learning at school. Whilst reading, stop and discuss interesting words and their meaning. Encourage your child to be passionate about words – have them write a list of their favourite words and discuss what they like about them and write a list of your own too!



Writing

Always encourage your child to read back their writing, checking for accuracy and any mistakes e.g. spelling errors in words containing previously learnt spelling rules and grammatical errors. 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. When you are reading together, look at how authors use different techniques for effect. For example, how do they show excitement or build a sense of tension? How do they make use of interesting language, such as metaphors or similes?

Maths

Having taught many of the number skill objectives, we now focus on using these skills to solve "real life" problems – in school these are also referred to as word problems or reasoning problems. Around the house, point out maths in everyday life: ask children to help you measure out ingredients and convert between grams and kilograms; take them shopping and ask them to estimate the cost (using rounding) or work out discounted prices (using percentages). Most importantly, practise times tables daily (with the corresponding division facts) as this will increase the speed and accuracy in school.

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.

