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Dear Parents

Home Learning During School Closure

We understand that family circumstances will vary during the school closure. The activities and websites below are intended as optional learning opportunities to help children continue learning at home. We encourage children to read daily, engage in some maths practice, stay active indoors where possible and enjoy creative learning activities.

Wellbeing and Physical Activity (All Ages)

Where possible, remain indoors during the hottest parts of the day and enjoy some gentle physical activity.

Useful websites:

- GoNoodle: <https://www.gonoodle.com>
- Cosmic Kids Yoga: <https://www.cosmickids.com>

Possible Activities

- *Follow a yoga session.*
- *Practise mindfulness and relaxation.*
- *Enjoy family board games and puzzles.*

Most importantly, please ensure children remain safe, cool and hydrated throughout the period of extreme weather. We hope these activities provide a useful balance of learning, creativity and wellbeing while schools are closed.

Yours sincerely

The White Horse Federation Education Team

Reception

Reading and Communication

- Share a story with an adult each day.
- Retell favourite stories using toys or drawings.
- Practise recognising letters and sounds.
- Sing nursery rhymes and action songs.

Useful websites:

- *Oak National Academy (Early Years):* <https://www.thenational.academy/pupils>
- *BBC Bitesize Early Years: Primary resources, homework help and online games - BBC Bitesize*
- *PhonicsPlay:* <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>
- *Oxford Owl:* <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>

Maths

- Count objects around the house.
- Sort toys by colour, shape or size.
- Practise number recognition to 20.
- Compare quantities using "more" and "fewer".

Useful websites:

- *Topmarks Early Years Games:* <https://www.topmarks.co.uk>
- *Oak National Academy Maths Lessons:* <https://www.thenational.academy/pupils>

Understanding the World

- Observe the weather from a window and talk about what you see.
- Draw a picture of today's weather.
- Discuss how to stay safe during very hot weather.

Creative Activities

- Make weather collages.
- Build models from recycled materials.
- Create a den for a favourite toy.

Years 1 & 2

Reading

- Read for at least 15–20 minutes daily.
- Read to a sibling or adult.
- Complete a book review.

Useful websites:

- *Oxford Owl:* <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>
- *BBC Bitesize KS1:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3q4d2p>
- *Storyline Online:* <https://storylineonline.net>

Writing

- Keep a weather diary.
- Write instructions for staying safe in hot weather.
- Create a postcard describing the week at home.

Maths

- Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Learn number bonds.
- Measure objects around the house.
- Play maths games.

Useful websites:

- *Oak National Academy KS1 Lessons:* <https://www.thenational.academy/pupils>
- *Hit the Button:* <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
- *Topmarks:* <https://www.topmarks.co.uk>

Science

- Record daily temperatures.
- Investigate which materials keep things cool.
- Learn about seasonal weather.

Creative and Practical Learning

- Design a sun hat.
- Build a model shelter for a toy.
- Create weather-themed artwork.

Years 3 & 4

Reading

- Read independently for at least 20 minutes daily.
- Summarise chapters and predict what might happen next.

Useful websites:

- *Oxford Owl:* <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>
- *BBC Bitesize KS2:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

Writing

- Write a newspaper report about the extreme weather.
- Produce a fact file about heatwaves.
- Write a short story set during unusual weather conditions.

Maths

- Practise times tables daily.
- Complete arithmetic challenges.
- Use temperatures to create charts and graphs.
- Solve money and budgeting problems.

Useful websites:

- *Oak National Academy Lower KS2 Lessons:* <https://www.thenational.academy/pupils>
- *Times Tables Rock Stars:* <https://trockstars.com>
- *NRICH Maths:* <https://nrich.maths.org>
- *Topmarks:* <https://www.topmarks.co.uk>

Science and Geography

- Research extreme weather around the world.
- Investigate how animals adapt to hot climates.
- Create a weather report presentation.

Useful websites:

- *National Geographic Kids:* <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com>

Creative Activities

- Design an emergency weather safety poster.
- Create a weather-themed comic strip.
- Build a bridge or structure using household materials.

Years 5 & 6

Reading

- Read for at least 30 minutes each day.
- Compare two texts or authors.
- Write a recommendation for another pupil.

Useful websites:

- *BBC Bitesize KS2:* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>
- *Oxford Owl:* <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>

Writing

- Write a balanced argument on whether schools should close during extreme weather.
- Create a persuasive leaflet about staying safe in a heatwave.
- Write a news article reporting on the weather event.

Maths

- Daily arithmetic practice.
- Times tables and fluency work.
- Analyse temperature data and present findings graphically.
- Plan a budget for a family event or holiday.

Useful websites:

- *Oak National Academy Upper KS2 Lessons:* <https://www.thenational.academy/pupils>
- *Times Tables Rock Stars:* <https://trockstars.com>
- *NRICH Maths:* <https://nrich.maths.org>

Science and Geography

- Investigate climate change and extreme weather.
- Research how different countries respond to heatwaves.
- Create a presentation or poster explaining weather systems.

Useful websites:

- *National Geographic Kids:* <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com>