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Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support with the home-learning. The staff have been so impressed with the level of engagement and quality of children's work. I have hovered in the background of several of the morning Zoom sessions this week and have enjoyed watching the children respond and join in.

We appreciate that every family situation is different and that you may not be able to support your child as much as you would like but please know that we understand this and are here to support you in any way we can. Prioritise doing some of the English, Maths and a little reading (see ideas below) over the other activities if time is short. Most staff members are juggling teaching with home learning for their own children too and are under no illusion that it is easy. Inevitably, some days may prove harder than others. If you have struggled with anything, let your child's teacher know by posting a comment on Seesaw or emailing your child's teacher directly but please do not worry. Family well-being is far more important at the moment.

Cancellation of Statutory Tests

You may have heard via the media that statutory primary school tests (SATs for Y2 and Y6, phonics screening for Y1 and the Multiplication Check for Y4) have been cancelled for this year. We have no information on the Kent Test and I suspect we will not hear anything more until the summer term but for those parents who are anxious about the impact of this latest lockdown, the children in Year 6 did very well this year, despite their disrupted education in Year 5.

Reading Books

If your child is reluctant to read to you, continue to read aloud to them. You and your child can join Kent Libraries if you are not already members and borrow ebooks and audio books. Information can be found here:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/ebooks-eaudiobooks-emagazines-enewspapers>

The following websites all have free reading resources:

Reading Eggs: [Learning to Read for Kids](#) | [Learn to Read with Phonics](#) | [Free Trial – Reading Eggs](#)

Oxford Owl : [Free eBook library](#) | [Oxford Owl from Oxford University Press](#)



Audible: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Finally, there are some great, creative ideas called 10 minute challenges on Authorfy set by bestselling children's authors: <https://authorfy.com/10minutechallenges/>

Keep up the amazing work and have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Al Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Alison Higgins