Dear parents, carers and children,

I’ve really enjoyed speaking to you on the phone this week and hearing how you have all been getting on at home. It’s been lovely to catch up with you and hear about the successes and challenges of home learning.

I’ve heard differing feedback on the BBC Bitesize Daily lessons from you. I’m glad many of you have found them to be a useful interactive resource, but I know some of you mentioned that you and your children preferred having worksheets to fill in or paper activities to complete. In light of this feedback, I’ve included a few more documents here for you to use if desired, but if the daily Maths and Literacy lessons on the BBC Bitesize website (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zmyxxyc/year-3-and-p4-lessons/1>) and daily iPlayer videos (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p089g063/bitesize-79-year-olds?seriesId=p08b00mq>) are easier for you then by all means do continue with them. Finding what’s right for you is important – different children will prefer different types of activities.

One resource which seems to have been universally liked was the White Rose Maths website (<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/year-3/>). I really can’t recommend this highly enough – it mirrors the learning we would have been continuing with in school, and contains an instructional video as well as a worksheet to complete every day. Do bear in mind that each lesson builds on prior learning, so if you’re just starting out with it you will find it useful to start back at ‘week 1’ rather than on the one dated this week.

Another useful resource is the Oak National Academy website, which is a new collaborative project funded by the government (<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/year-3#subjects>). This has daily videos of teacher input on a variety of subjects which children can follow along with, which makes it ideal for parents who have work of their own to complete at home!

Alongside some of these websites, I’ve included some work on the Ancient Greeks. This was due to be our summer term topic, so would be a great area of History to delve into with your children. I’ve put some work together here, but this is just a starting point – if it’s something that catches their interest, perhaps this could become an extended project they could research further. I’d love to see fact pages, stories set in Ancient Greece, Powerpoint presentations, artwork or anything else you create linked to the topic.

You can continue to access all the resources we’ve previously uploaded to our website (under the ‘classes’ tab on [www.jys.org.uk](http://www.jys.org.uk)), and I remain contactable via email for anything you need ([donald.vass@jys.org.uk](mailto:donald.vass@jys.org.uk)). From my phone calls this week, I know you’re all doing a fantastic job of educating your children while also balancing the need for their wider wellbeing as well. It’s an incredibly tough job, particularly if you have several children and work of your own to do at home – if I were giving out blue ‘Star Of The Week’ certificates this week, it would be for all of you!

Stay safe,

Mr Donald Vass

Year 3, Jessie Younghusband School

**1. BBC Bitesize**

* BBC Bitesize Daily. Daily lessons on Literacy, Maths and other subjects are available both on the BBC website (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zmyxxyc/year-3-and-p4-lessons/1>) and on the iPlayer accessible through TVs (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p089g063/bitesize-79-year-olds?seriesId=p08b00mq>).

**2. Maths**

* The Maths unit the children were due to be learning about at school currently is Fractions. White Rose, the group who produce the school’s long term Maths planning, have put together a fantastic set of resources, including teaching videos, on the different skills and steps we were due to teach over the next few weeks. There are accompanying activities to go alongside each lesson (<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/year-3/>).
* Part of our previous learning was about telling the time on an analogue clock. How accurately can you do this now – can you recognise on the hour? Half past and quarter past? To the nearest five minutes? Keep practising this skill whenever you can throughout the day. A useful extension is to estimate roughly what time it is to the minute, noticing for example that if the minute hand is nearly at ‘quarter past’, perhaps it may be 14 minutes past the hour.
* If you started practising your 8x table as part of the last set of learning, how are you getting on? Can you count up in 8s, do multiplication facts in a random order and even do the corresponding division facts? This would be a great thing to continue practising, perhaps on [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)

**3. Oak National Academy**

* Daily video lessons on Literacy, Maths and other subjects ((<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/year-3#subjects>).

**4. History**

* Our summer term topic was due to be on the Ancient Greeks. As part of this learning pack, I’ve included a quick introductory video, a crib sheet for parents to quickly brush up on the important key information, and a link to a fantastic child friendly research website (make sure to check out each of the tabs on the side bar).
* I’ve included a timeline of Alexander The Great which would make a great ordering activity. Cut out each life event and ask your child to order them by date. They may well ask you why it appears to start with his death and end with his birth – isn’t this the wrong way round? You can explain that these dates are ‘BCE’, meaning ‘Before Common Era’ (ie before the year ‘0’ as we would understand it now). You could sketch this out on a timeline with ‘0’ coming afterwards and ‘2020’ right at the end, so show that the Ancient Greek era happened more than 2000 years ago.
* Ancient Greece was made up of several ‘city states’, which each operated in very different ways. You can find some information about two of the largest, Sparta and Athens, on a PowerPoint and accompanying worksheet. Where do you think you would have fit in better – with the strong, powerful Spartans of with the intelligent, gentler Athenians?

**5. Literacy**

* Read books daily if you can. They can be school books, old favourites from your bookshelf or even things you find online.
* VE Day (May 8th) Reading comprehension
* Digestive System Reading comprehension
* As part of our Ancient Greek topic, we would usually do some Literacy work alongside it. I’ve included some teaching slides as a stimulus for a diary entry from the point of view of a Spartan soldier. The video included here is a bit gory, including some limbs being chopped off, so parental discretion is advised, though I’ve not previously encountered any problems with this. Probably worth a quick reminder that it’s from a film and so is all acted rather than real footage of people being hurt.
* There is also a self-assessment checklist and an evaluation sheet to complete alongside the writing. A piece of writing like this would normally take around 5 hours of lesson time to introduce, plan, write, proof read, evaluate and edit in full – take your time with this.

**6. Science**

* There are 4 different practical Science experiments here, each using fairly common household items. The Science is explained on each activity, so you can help your child to understand what’s going on after you’ve enjoyed the practical experiment together.

**7. DT**

* I know many of you really enjoyed cooking from a recipe as part of your home learning. Why not try this spaghetti bolognese recipe for dinner, or use one of your own?

**8. Art**

* Children’s book author/illustrator Rob Biddulph has been posting fantastic 10 minutes videos demonstrating how he draws various different people, animals and characters on his books (<http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>). These are really fun and fairly straightforward to follow along with.
* Craft Binoculars