Dear Parents,

**Home Activities - 4**

Hello again! Many thanks to everyone who has sent emails and pictures of what you have been up to – from what I have seen you are all keeping busy and active. I hope you are all continuing to keep well and managing to cope.

**New for this week:**

**Writing challenge:** it would be great to get an update from everyone about what you have been doing while we have not been able to go to school. So if possible, I would like all children in Class 2 to write a minimum of 5 sentences about activities they have been carrying out, take a picture and send it to me. **A few pointers (reminders for the children):**

- please write as neatly as you can (on lined paper – draw lines if needed)
- remember to use a capital letter at the start and a full stop at the end of each sentence
- leaves a space between each word
- Year 2s should be trying to add some detail in each sentence (perhaps by using adverbs, adjectives and conjunctions)

I look forward to reading them!

*Here are my example sentences about things I have been doing – feel free to share with / show these to your children if they need some ideas:*

I have planted peas outside in the garden and radishes in a large plastic tub on the windowsill in the kitchen where they get plenty of light. The peas are growing slowly, but it’s amazing looking carefully at how they use their tendrils to find something to grab onto as they get bigger. Meanwhile the radishes are shooting up quickly and the instructions on the seed packet say that they should be ready for eating in just a few weeks. Every day I go for a walk or a cycle ride on the quiet paths and roads around Cockermouth, sometimes with Mrs Spencer and sometimes by myself, really appreciating being outside in this glorious weather. When my jobs are done, I have enjoyed reading a book called “The Salt Path” about walking around the beautiful coastline of South-West England, which is something I would love to do one day if I get the chance.
**Singing:** hopefully you are having fun learning the songs that go with the story of Jack and the Beanstalk (remember, lyrics on the Class 2 page of the school website), but if you are missing some of our Class 2 favourites some of them (including “Alice the Camel” and “Down by the Bay”) can be found at **www.singup.org**. No registration or login needed - I suggest the “Song of the Week” and the “Silly Stuff” and “Songs To get Moving” sections, but obviously feel free to explore and find some great new tunes!

**As suggested previously:**

**Daily online lessons:** BBC Bitesize are providing daily online Maths and English lessons, along with regular Science, History, Geography and more. I strongly recommend having a go at using them: 

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons)

(Just pick your child’s year group and choose from the lessons on offer.)

**Topic:** Growing Plants / “Jack and the Beanstalk”.

I hope you have all managed to get hold of some seeds to grow, and that you are keeping a diary to record what has happened so far. *(Please get in touch if this is a problem – I’m sure we can find a way to help.)*

I also hope you have all enjoyed the online version of “Jack and the Beanstalk” and are continuing to learn the songs. *(Please see the previous letter for links to the story and songs, and remember that the lyrics are on the Class 2 page of the school website.)*

**Maths:** Please continue to follow the suggested activities in order at [https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/](https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/).

**Reading:**

Please continue to both read to and hear your child read as often as possible and take time to talk about the books. Remember to use “OxfordOwl” for more choice – it is a great online library (see previous letters for details).

**Writing:**

Continue the diary of something you are growing – this could include pictures of how your plant looks as it grows.
When you have listened to the story of “Jack and the Beanstalk” have a go at some writing based on it – this could be a description of the castle where the giant lived, writing about what Jack might do with the riches he brought back, or even a retelling of the whole story.

**Suggested websites to support learning using ICT:**

**Education City** – Keep up the good work – and remember, you can explore the Education City site via “Subjects” and “Play Live” to find lots more fun educational activities.

**Mathletics** – New activities will be set regularly. Remember, when all the assigned activities are complete, your child is also able to access the games area which is great for encouraging swift recall of number facts.

*(See the previous letters – all on the Class 2 page of the website – for links to some other great online resources.)*

I hope that the above suggestions are helpful to you as you support your children learning at home. Please don’t try to do everything here, but find out what works well for you and your children.

Best wishes to you and your families at this difficult time.  *Mr Spencer*

*Keep learning, keep active, keep smiling and keep safe!*