



**Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Collins MA, BA (hons)**

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re: Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home

At St Nicholas, we believe homework should be **quality, not quantity**. Short, purposeful tasks that are linked to classroom learning are far more effective than lengthy or repetitive ones. Above all, the most important skill every child needs is **daily reading**. Reading together at home—whether your child is practising decoding, building fluency, or discussing stories—has the greatest impact on their progress across all subjects.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) highlights that homework is most effective when it is directly connected to classwork, focused, and manageable ([EEF: Homework](#)). Our approach reflects this evidence.

We also understand that some parents and carers would like to do **more structured learning at home** with their children, and we fully support this. To help, we have gathered a range of high-quality resources in maths and English that link closely to the curriculum and can be used flexibly at home.

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### Maths Resources

- **White Rose Home Learning:** Free, year-group tasks linked to the curriculum. Short activities designed to reinforce fluency and reasoning. All year groups.  
[Home Learning – Year 1](#)
- **Maths with Michael:** Short videos explaining key maths concepts in clear, accessible ways.  
[Maths with Michael](#)
- **Practice Journals** (available to buy): Structured practice that follows the White Rose curriculum. Helpful for regular, consistent maths review.  
[Practice Journals](#)

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### English Resources

- **Daily Reading:** The single most important home learning activity. Please aim to read with your child every day, discussing stories and new vocabulary.
- **CGP SPaG Workbooks:** Available to buy, these workbooks provide short, structured practice in spelling, punctuation and grammar.  
[CGP SPaG Workbooks](#)

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### Online Practice Platforms

Children also have access to online learning platforms which we encourage them to use regularly.

- **TT Rock Stars:** A fun and engaging way for children to practise times tables regularly. Each child has their own login details, which can be used at home.

## Learning, Loving, Living in God's Family

*"But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God; I trust in God's unfailing love forever and ever. Psalm 52:8*



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- **Spelling Shed:** Interactive games and activities to support spelling practice in line with the curriculum. Logins are provided for pupils to access at home.
- **Scratch** – Coding platform for children to create animations, games and projects. Logins are provided for pupils to access at home.
- **Purple Mash** is a cross-curricular online learning platform aimed primarily at primary pupils. Logins are provided for pupils to access at home.

## Our Tips for Home Learning

- Keep sessions **short and consistent** (10–15 minutes).
- Focus on **talking through ideas** and praising effort.
- Relate learning to **everyday life**—measuring in cooking, handling money, or spotting punctuation in books.

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By prioritising daily reading and supporting classroom learning with these resources, together we can give children the strongest foundation for success.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Senior Leadership Team

List of other websites that can support learning:

- **BBC Bitesize** – Free videos, quizzes, games, and guides for all Key Stages (KS1 to GCSE).
- **Oak National Academy** – Free lessons, quizzes and worksheets across the curriculum.
- **Top Marks** – Free interactive games for maths, literacy and more (popular with primary).
- **Twinkl Parents Hub** – Printable worksheets, activity packs and guides aligned to the National Curriculum.
- **STEM Learning (Parents & Families)** – Free STEM challenges, activities and resources.
- **EdPlace** – Interactive worksheets, practice tests and revision (KS1–GCSE).
- **NRich** – Problem-solving challenges and puzzles from Cambridge University.
- **Phonics Play** – Phonics games and printable activities (popular in KS1).

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