

MI Home Learning

Dear Parents,

The ETPS@Home MI Learner Pack is a suggested plan of how you may be able to support your child's educational learning at home. The learning tasks are designed to be completed with support, while encouraging independence where possible. I offer this resource to you as a guide. I understand and appreciate the different circumstances for each family, and their capacity to support their child's home learning. I encourage families to utilise the resources in your child's home learning pack along with any additional resources you have at home. This plan is designed to be flexible due to differing family circumstances and individual student needs.

Five, six and seven year old children need to move often (as you know), so try to provide regular movement breaks. Setting a timer can be helpful, as they can see an end to the time they need to sit. Mix it up by alternating "table-top" activities and movement ones where possible. Search Brain Breaks on your computer. There are many great action songs with movement on you tube. Jack Hartmann, Learning Station and Super Simple Songs are favourites of MI.

When writing, it is very important to encourage correct pencil grip and letter formation as per the SA Handwriting tracing charts as included in your take home packs. I have included a range of additional writing resources in the take home packs, which are differentiated based on individual student needs, and whether their focus is pre-writing skills, tracing letters/numbers, copying words or making independent attempts in writing words and sentences. No letters in English start at the bottom. Encourage correct sizing, spacing and use of lines. Even though MI children are in their early stages of writing, it is important to guide them in this.

Read with your child every day. This means you reading aloud to them, with them and having them read to you. Look at the cover. Get them to predict what the story is about. Ask them questions about the text, clarify any new or unfamiliar words. Discuss the characters, the setting the problem and resolution that is in all narratives (stories). Look for sounds and sight words that they are learning in the text. Read library books, home books, story books, information books. Nursery Rhymes are also a valuable source of sight words and develop a sense of rhyme, which is so important for young learners.

Encourage your child to play, make and create every day. Lego, blocks, construction, modelling, playdough, painting, drawing, collage, pastels, threading and puppets to name a few. Children learn so much through play. Life will happen and there will be times that you do not get everything done. This happens at school too and you will need to be flexible. Be guided by your child and their needs.

We are all learners in this together. As teachers, we are upskilling every day in new ways to embrace home learning, particularly with the use of technology such as Seesaw for sharing between home and school. Seesaw will be my preferred method of contact and I encourage you to contact me via Seesaw with any questions or challenges you may be experiencing (If you are wondering about something, it is likely others are too!). I will respond to messages as soon as I am able to.

I wish you the very best of luck with home learning.

Warmest Regards,

Zebedy Hallett