



Dear Children (please let your parents have a look at this letter too!)

As you know we are SMART learners at GEPS- which means we don't have 'homework' to do! Instead you take charge and challenge yourselves to be better learners! Think about Austin's Butterfly and how he had 5 attempts at improving his drawing (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqh1MRWZjms>) maybe mum or dad would be interested to see the clip too.

The vast majority of children (over 80%) come back to school in September knowing less than they did in July. Don't let this happen - be SMART!

Of course we want you to have a jolly good rest and recharge your batteries. Hopefully the sun will shine so that you can do lots of lovely things outside, you may even be lucky enough to be going on holiday somewhere. However, you may also want to do a bit of SMART learning, so I thought I'd remind you about some of the exciting ways you can do that if you want to!

S: Spellings - Keep looking at your spellings and write them everywhere you go - on mum's shopping list, on post-it notes around the house, make a muddy puddle and then get a stick and write them in the mud....be creative and have some fun!



In the Learning Library too!

there are some great spelling games

M: If you want to practise your maths you can use:



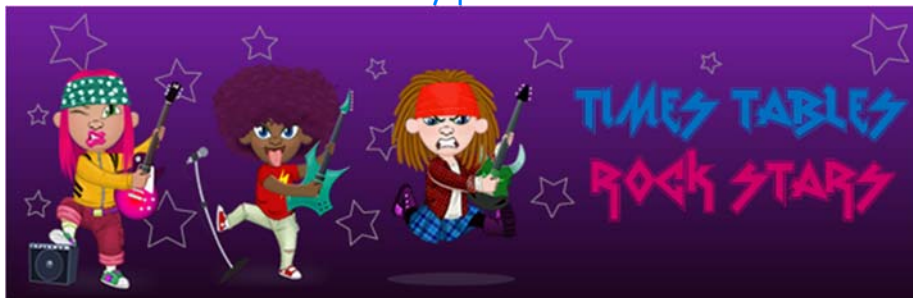
The vast majority of students (over 80%) come back to school in September knowing less than they did in July.

However, in one study* the reverse happened: 80% of children returned in September knowing *more*. These children had used DoodleMaths for 20+ minutes weekly.

(Joiner, R and Lyons, S. University of Bath 2016)

Keep learning over the summer with their free-to-enter competition. It's simple: every child who earns over 750 stars this summer gets a ton of free goodies.

Times Tables Rockstars is my personal fave!



Remember what you have been practising in your maths lessons - you could do some counting at home, everytime you run up or down the stairs challenge yourself to do it in 7s or 8s! Work on whichever tables or counting steps you are learning. When you walk the dog or in the car - just have a quick go and soon you will become an expert!

Telling the time, weighing ingredients, measuring water in jugs - all important



skills which are easy to have a go at. DB Primary Learning Library has some great games for Reception to Year 6 - counting to algebra!

A: and...

R: One of the best ways to be SMART is to read! So bury your nose in a good book and enjoy an adventure! Remember to 'magpie' the best bits (you don't need a magpie book - your reading diary or a piece of paper would work just as well!) Please help yourself to a few books from the library - you are welcome to borrow as many as you like! On the school website under 'Learning links' there is a link to the Oxford Owl website which has lots of lovely things to explore and some more free books to read online!

Then of course there is...



Very popular with lots of children. The great thing about Reading Eggs is that it will choose books at the right level for you AND ask you questions to help you improve your comprehension.

Remember having stories read to you is also HUGELY important so you can sit back and enjoy some Jacanory time too (ask mums and dads what that means!)

T: together means with your families, friends and pets! There are lots of things you can do together...you could explore the world and have a look on:





DB Primary's Learning Library has gazillions of topics to find out about and some GREAT programming games too! You can learn more about keeping safe online as well.



Some of the Y5 'Big Thinkers' choose children who have thought about the weekly 'Big Question' which is sent out in The Grapevine for families to discuss. The philosophy style question helps improve skills in discussion, debate and empathy. The winner receives a prestigious badge!

The current SMART - 'Think Big Question' is -

Is it better to be rich and lonely or poor and popular?

Here are some more questions to think about and discuss with your family and friends:

- Is it better to give up your space in a lifeboat to save a mother and infant twins, or to stay put and push out an old man instead?
- *If you say sorry without meaning it, but the person you've said it to believes you, does it still count*
- Would it be better to be rich and ugly, or poor but beautiful?
- Is the hole in a polo part of the polo?

The Woodlands Primary link (from Learning Links) has a great 'Facts of the Day' calendar which you could check out.



Remember there are lots of workouts, dances and brain training exercises to keep you busy on here. The username is admin@greateaston.essex.sch.uk and the password is cm62dr

Children we just want you to be inspired to learn about everything! Have a look on the school website under 'Learning Links' for more ideas - there is an art-cyclopedia, great grub club and lots more.
Just remember to ask before you use the internet.

Your teachers may have told you about your topics after the summer - Reception and KS1 you will be learning about geography and countries of the world, continents, oceans and hot and cold parts of the world. KS2 your topic is...the Egyptians, so you might like to start reading and investigating ready for the start of the year!

Our first day back **will not be a house team day - so wear your uniform.** Instead we are going to have a Brain Blasting Puzzle Day! It will be a fun day and your parents can join in with you after school too!

If we do some impressive learning at home come and see me when we get back and earn a SMART badge to wear with pride!

Have an AMAZING Summer holiday, have a brilliant rest, plenty of and fun and keep safe!

I can't wait to hear all about your adventures...

Miss Jackman ☺