



Dear Parents / Carers,

15th October 2015

We have reviewed some aspects of our Home learning procedures. Literacy and Numeracy home learning will now be set according to children using a Mathletics and Spellodrome program. These are a web based learning program that integrates home and school learning via the internet. As an online learning resource, Mathletics and Spellodrome are the next generation in learning, helping students enjoy Mathematics and Literacy while learning. Spellodrome and Mathletics use play and practice as the vehicle to encourage students to enjoy and improve their spelling and number skills. Mathletics and Spellodrome provide instant feedback on student's performance, maintain a high level of motivation, and offer teachers the opportunity to address children's learning strengths and needs.

Mathletics

The homework set by teachers through Mathletics is differentiated to suit each child's level of development. It is important that your child logs onto Mathletics and completes the set homework tasks set by their class teacher, usually on weekly basis.

Teachers log into their class Mathletics account to check that children have completed the homework activities and the scores they achieved. This is a useful tool as teachers can see each child's score and adjust future lessons accordingly.

- We recommend that children regularly use Mathletics at home, for a minimum of 15 minutes per night, not only to complete homework activities but to also use other features of the program such as Live Mathletics where your child can compete against other children around the world in real time to answer maths questions mentally. This has proved successful in improving children's speed and accuracy in mental maths assessments.
- We recommend that you spend time looking at the Mathletics program with your child so you can see how it will benefit their learning.

Spellodrome

Your child will have access to Spellodrome at home and school through a unique username and password, the same one that they use for Mathletics. We recommend that you spend time looking at the program with your child to explore how Spellodrome will benefit his or her learning.

Each week, students are required to complete a weekly spelling test consisting of up to 16 words that get increasingly more difficult. This is known as "Cyclobot's Challenge" and is based on individual students' allocated word lists. It requires them to listen to the word as the sentence is read out and then type the word correctly spelled into the box on the screen.

As a parent or guardian, you can sign up to the Spellodrome Family Centre. This will give you access to the learning content your child is following, and information regarding his or her progress within Spellodrome.

Access

You will find your child's Mathematics/Spellodrome details i.e. Username and password, will be stuck on the front of their yellow Reading Record book next week.

Home learning club

To participate in Mathematics you do need to have access to the internet. For those children who are unable to participate in Mathematics because there is no internet connection at home. We will be setting up a home learning club after half term so children do not miss out on this exciting opportunity.

Workshops

Mr Loizou will be running workshops after half term on Mathematics and Spellodrome. The aim of these workshops will be to help parents support their children's learning through the use of ICT resources subscribed to by the school. We will send out the dates for these after half-term.

You can access Mathematics through the school website: www.stcyprians.croydon.sch.uk.

Any questions please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Loizou .

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Baron', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mrs V Baron

Headteacher