**Reading**

* Do not worry about what your child reads – books, magazines, annuals, recipes, cereal boxes, Argos catalogues – it is all useful material.
* Do not worry about how long you read for – every minute counts and makes a difference!
* Read to your children – ask questions (who, what, why, where, when, how?) / talk about the pictures / encourage your child to use the pictures to tell the story / ask your child to predict what will happen next…
* Praise your child when you ‘catch’ them reading!

**Super Schooling at Home ~ The St Mary’s Way**

* **Thank you** for all you have done so far on our home schooling journey.
* It is new to all of us and we are all trying to find a way that works for us as a school family and as families and individuals at home.
* Teachers are in regular contact on **Dojo** and set activities via Dojo. Do not feel under pressure to complete *everything.*

This guide highlights some of the key areas to focus on whilst away from school.

* All teachers are available to offer support and guidance should you

wish – please contact us if you need to.

* Mr Watkins – head@stmarys.bridgend.gov.uk
* Mrs Azzopardi – azzopardir6@hwbmail.net

**Maths**

* Maths can be part of your everyday activities e.g. counting utensils in the kitchen!
* Board games such as Snakes and Ladders / other numbered spaces games reinforce counting.
* Meal and snack times are great for talking about sharing / quantities or estimating e.g. How many peas do you think there are? or comparing e.g. Which potato is bigger?
* Use mathematical language during play e.g. shape, size, ordering.
* Bricks / building toys are great for counting and making different length / height towers or creating a pattern of colours.
* Chanting times tables is a good way to keep our brains working and remembering number facts.
* Encourage your child to tell you the time – even if it is just morning, afternoon, night.



**Wellbeing**

* Feeling a little anxious in such an unusual and unpredictable time is normal.
* Communication is key to building resilience – encourage your child to talk – to people at home / to friends or family via devices.
* Having routines and structures help children to feel secure.
* Play is fundamental to the wellbeing and development of children of all ages. It can also be very enjoyable for adults!
* Prayer is good for all of our wellbeing… pray together, share Bible stories, share the Good News.
* Fr Tim has a YouTube Channel (link on school website – [www.stmarys.wales](http://www.stmarys.wales))



**Home Learning Routine**

* Regular routines help support positive behaviour and learning.
* Find a routine that works for you and your current home life.
* Complete learning activities at a time and at a pace that suits you.
* There are no deadlines.