*****School Closure – Generic Resource Bank***

* *At the start of the week get your child or children to write a couple of ideas for things they want to do that week and put them in a jar. Each day pull one out of the jar to do that day when they have no ideas or say they are bored.*
* *Make a plan and assign times to it – use a clock or timer to keep track*
* *Don’t forget the old favourites all of which develop skills that have learning applications – playdough, plasticene, painting, jigsaws, lego, board games, playing cards, skipping ropes, football in the garden and bubbles*
* *Get your child involved in the day to day running of the household.  They often like to help plan and make the meals.  Shopping (online) is a great chance to use their maths skills in real life. Helping with housework also teaches your child lots of important skills about being organised, sequencing tasks and being part of the family, co-operating and contributing!*
* *Let your child build a tent or hut using old sheets, blankets and odds and ends from around the house – get them to invent a story around it.*
* *Plan an “expedition” – use the computer to work out where they would go, how they would get there, what they need to take etc.*
* *Get messy – play with paint on old wallpaper rolls, play with sand or soil, use a tarpaulin, water and dishwashing liquid and make a “slip’n’slide” down a hill*
* *Have your child find some music and make up a dance, or find a favourite story and make up a play. Maybe they can use their toys as actors or make puppets using paper bags, wooden spoons, socks etc.*
* *Encourage them to read as often and as many different things as they can - they might like to read in the mornings before they get up, at night before they go to bed, or help you by reading to their younger siblings*
* *Keeping a journal or scrapbook can be fun - plans, drawings, photos, and stories of things they do all help their literacy skills and kids love to read and re-read them in the future*
* *Helping out with cooking and baking makes use of their maths skills and shows them how maths is all around them*
* *Watch a movie – discuss and review together*
* *Learn a new skill – adults with them may be able to teach them to knit, crochet or make a tower of playing cards but there are also online tutorials that you can use*
* *Play word games – I spy, My grandmothers cat, how many words can you make from a longer one etc*
* *Get some coins/ money – can they make different amounts, work out change etc*
* *Make a kitchen shop – and take roles of customer and shop keeper*
* *Junk modelling – use the recycling to make new items to give then a new life, can you make a pencil pot out of a milk container or bean tin etc*
* *Letter writing – to family, to friends, to a favourite celebrity or author, about an issue they are passionate about*
* *Keep in touch with older relatives who might also be stuck at home – email them regularly or call them and talk to develop language skills*
* *Dramatise a favourite passage or scene from a story you have read together.*
* *Talk about school every now and then - remind them of the things they can look forward to when they return to school*
* *Towards the end of the end of the closure have your child help with the back to school preparations – getting all the things ready that they will need and preparing for getting back into that daily routine.*