Home Learning Services at St. Alban's

At St. Alban's we provide various Online Learning Services for your child. These complement each other and are aimed at enriching your child's learning outside school. All children have been provided with login details to these services. If there are any problems with accessing the resources, please email the school office on contact@st-albans.havering.sch.uk

The services are as follows:

DB Primary: This is our main learning platform and acts as a 'base' for your child's Online Learning. The service allows children to:

- Take part in teacher-set and self-selected activities and tasks
- Personalise their own learning space homepage (See image below)
- Communicate with other St. Alban's pupils
- Be creative by producing documents, pictures and recordings
- Schedule their own learning and activities with an online calendar

Tasks set will appear in the 'Things to do' section and are animated to draw attention to them.

'Mail' provides a way for children to collaborate on tasks or just chat with each other in a secure environment.

Each year group has its own **Community Homepage**. This is where your child will find any messages or tasks and activities set by the teacher. There are also links to useful websites.

LGFL APPs: London Grid for Learning provides a wealth of resources. Log in from the Home Learning page on the School Website. LGFL Apps is a wide range of resources for varying ages. Highlights include 'Reading Zone' which lets children hear directly from a range of authors and J2E which is a wide range of tools for writing, drawing and publishing content. 'JIT' is ideal
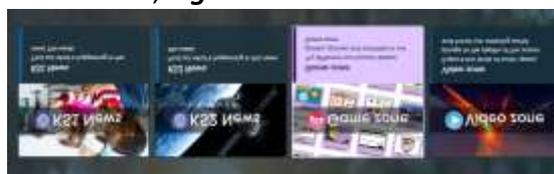

for younger children. There is also a variety of talking books for younger children to watch and listen to. After logging in, children should click on **'Resources'** then **'Library'** to access the apps. Children can select the app by scrolling down or typing in the 'Search' box.

SUMDOG: Sumdog is a new maths service which encourages children to improve in their maths through gameplay along with more formal activities. It is available to Years 1 to 6 and is accessible through the Home Learning page of the School Website. Tasks and assessments can be set by the teacher. Other features include children being able to play against each other, and an intelligent algorithm which lets the program learn about the abilities of the child. Don't be fooled by appearance of the gameplay; the questions being asked will challenge your child at an appropriate level for their ability.

ESPRESSO: This is available through the 'espresso@home' link on your child's Year Group Community page in DB Primary. It provides a wealth of articles, videos activities and assessments based around your child's learning. Navigate through the age-group buttons and the subject area to the section needed. Other highlights include *News* sections for both Infants and Juniors, a *games zone* and a *video library*.

Teachers may use links to other Websites and services as well, and these will be accessed through the Year Community Page in DB Primary.

School Research Page: This page, which is accessed through the Home Learning page of the School Website, brings together a number of 'safe search' services and content websites as a *launchpad* for any research your child may be asked to do. When teachers plan and research activities, they will use this page as the basis for the activity to ensure your child can find the information they need. Many of the sites will provide the same content in a different way, so your child can use the one which is more to their liking.

At St. Alban's, we are aware of the huge benefits but also the risks involved with being online. All activities and tasks set by teachers are designed to ensure children spend no more than two hours working in any one day. We would encourage parents to keep an eye on children during their time online to ensure they are remaining safe and well. If parents have any concerns regarding *Online Safety*, the first place to look would be our Website's *Online Safety page*, which has links to a variety of services and sources of information relating to the subject.