



Tiptree St Luke's Church of England VC Primary School

Church Road Tiptree Colchester Essex CO5 0SU

Phone: (01621) 815456

E mail: admin@stlukesschool.co.uk

Website: www.stlukesschool.co.uk

know, love, serve; God, Ourselves & Others

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Write To The Top (WTTT) Homework

Write to the Top is a weekly opportunity for the children to write at length and apply the skills that they are continually learning in school. Regular practise has been shown, time and time again, as the way to make learning 'sticky' and allow the children to retain knowledge and skills in their long-term memory. Alongside this, memory is helped drastically by opportunities to talk about past, present and future learning which is why a key aspect of WTTT is the opportunity to talk about the piece of writing both in school and at home.

Write To The Top is therefore a priority piece of homework for children in years 1 - 6 at St. Luke's with children using this homework every Monday to support their independent writing in school. This writing is used as supporting evidence for assessments and there is clear evidence to show that children's progress over time has increased since its introduction, with those who engage with the homework progressing even faster.

What **teachers** will do:

- Plan a whole class lesson for children to discuss and make notes ready for the Write To The Top lesson the following Monday. In this session teachers will:
 - Cover the writing prompt that will be made available to the parents as homework
 - Provide a planning format for the children to write with
 - Support the children making notes on key vocabulary, ideas
 - Create a class record of the discussion in the form of bullet points or pictorial reminders, success criteria and notes to be used in class on the Monday alongside notes from home
- Display large mind-maps of ideas on the wall for children to refer to in the Monday writing session.
- Allow the children to use their notes from Friday **and home** during the Monday session. **Notes cannot currently be taken home over the weekend or brought back on Monday in order to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transfer however making notes at home will help children retain more of the information you discuss. We do not expect the children to retain everything.**
- Provide additional time on Monday before the independent writing begins for discussion and sharing of ideas that have been generated through talking with their families at home over the weekend.
- Feedback to the children, which can include marking, against the discussed success criteria identifying where the children have been successful, where there could be improvement and where they are making grammatical and spelling errors (appropriate to their level) through developmental marking.

What **children/parents** will do:

- Spend time discussing the writing prompt at home:
 - approximately 15 minutes in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2)
 - approximately 20 minutes in Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)
 - approximately 25 minutes in Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6)
- Generate ideas about what could be written through discussion and research topics together when appropriate.
- Think about and note key vocabulary or words that might be tricky to spell.
- Make notes as this will help them to retain ideas ready for the writing lesson **and send this homework in with the child on Monday.**