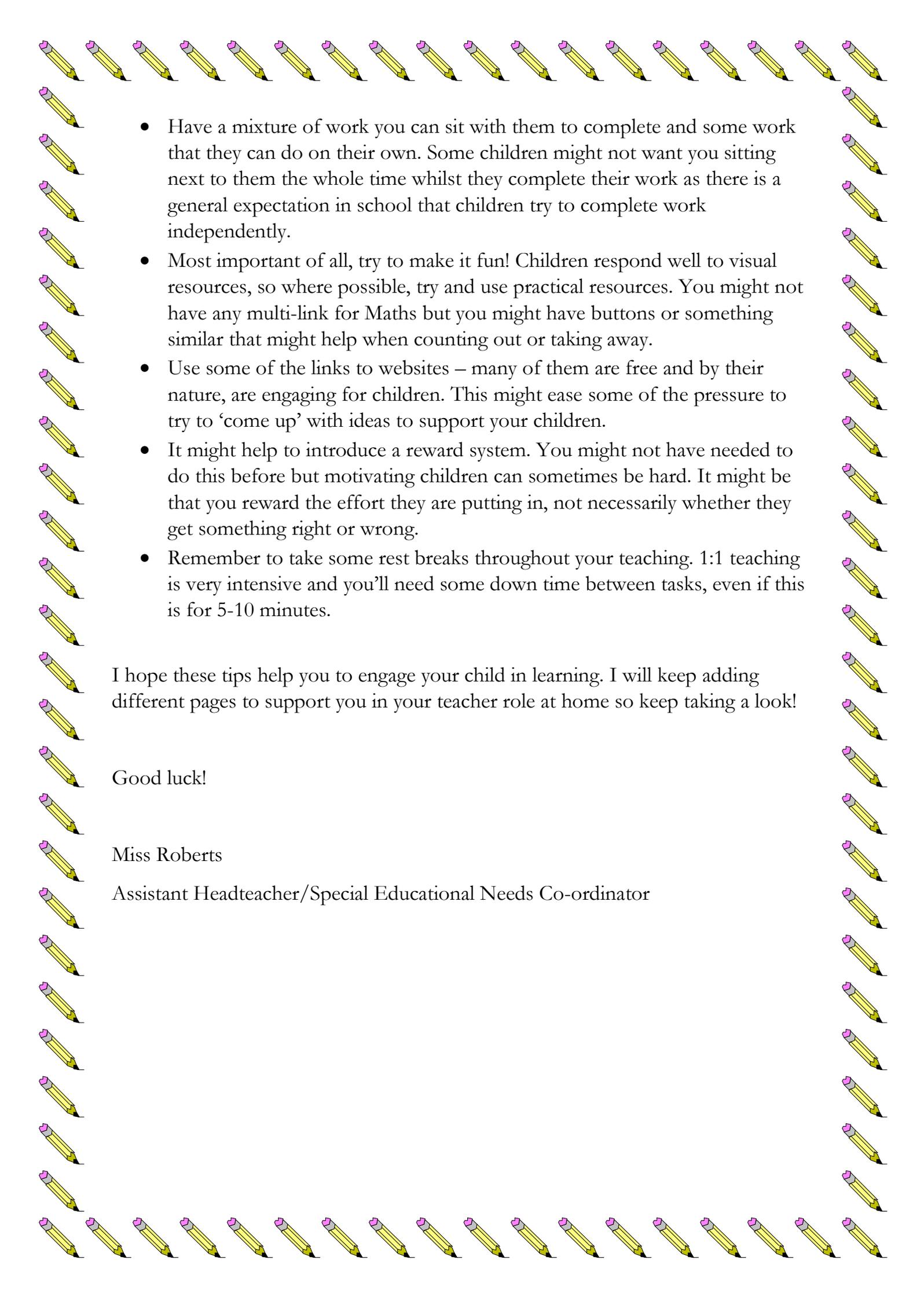


## Parental guide for supporting children with Special Educational Needs

We understand that supporting children to complete work at home can be challenging and this can be additionally so if your child finds work at school difficult. Here are a few handy tips to support your child that might help. The first guide is on supporting any resistance to completing school work!

### How to manage any resistance to work

- Creating a daily routine will help your child to keep things as 'normal' as possible. Get up, get dressed and be ready to start the day just as you would for school
- The core subjects like English and Maths are normally taught in the morning at school as this is when children's attention and concentration spans are at their best. If you can, try to approach work in the morning. It may be very challenging to coax your child off the X-Box or Playstation to do some school work once they are into a game!
- Try and turn off the TV, music and other distracting things when you're trying to teach your child. If your child's attention easily wanders, break down tasks into small chunks to make it more manageable. Complete a task and then have a small break.
- If your child is resisting your support in a 'teacher' role, this is perfectly normal and it may take your child a few days to adjust to a new routine. Don't worry! Just stay calm.
- Another reason for resistance may also be because your child is worried that you'll be able to see what they can and cannot do with their learning. Whilst they might be able to ask for help in class, admitting that you don't know something can be intimidating. Just reassure them as much as possible that *"It's okay to get things wrong, that just helps the adults work out what we need to practise more!"*
- If your child is putting up a bit of a fight, this is likely to be anxiety about the new routine. Try and give them some control – ask them what order they would like to do things in, *"Would you like to do some English first or some Maths?"*
- At school, a lot of classroom activities are 'differentiated'. This means that work is planned at the differing abilities within the classroom. If your child is finding their own year group work a real challenge, try dipping into a lower year group for support; this may ease issues about approaching the work.

- 
- Have a mixture of work you can sit with them to complete and some work that they can do on their own. Some children might not want you sitting next to them the whole time whilst they complete their work as there is a general expectation in school that children try to complete work independently.
  - Most important of all, try to make it fun! Children respond well to visual resources, so where possible, try and use practical resources. You might not have any multi-link for Maths but you might have buttons or something similar that might help when counting out or taking away.
  - Use some of the links to websites – many of them are free and by their nature, are engaging for children. This might ease some of the pressure to try to ‘come up’ with ideas to support your children.
  - It might help to introduce a reward system. You might not have needed to do this before but motivating children can sometimes be hard. It might be that you reward the effort they are putting in, not necessarily whether they get something right or wrong.
  - Remember to take some rest breaks throughout your teaching. 1:1 teaching is very intensive and you’ll need some down time between tasks, even if this is for 5-10 minutes.

I hope these tips help you to engage your child in learning. I will keep adding different pages to support you in your teacher role at home so keep taking a look!

Good luck!

Miss Roberts

Assistant Headteacher/Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator