English World

Home School Connect

Parent's Booklet

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What is *Home–School Connect*?

Welcome to *Home–School Connect*, a merit system that invites you to get more involved in your child's English education in the following ways:

- **Celebrating learning:** At the end of every unit, your child will bring home a **merit card** with a fun activity for them to complete and a space for you to sign. The merit card is a celebration for the whole class for completing the unit. Every child in the class will receive a merit card.
- **Looking ahead:** On the back of the merit card is '**What's next?**' This lists objectives from the next unit. The class teacher will advise you on how you can help your child to prepare for the next unit.
- **Extending learning:** You can set your child a further activity at home by using the **extra tasks** on the parent's website: *http://macmillanyounglearners.com/englishworld/parent* These tasks will encourage your child to reflect on what they have learnt and to apply their new language in different contexts.
- **Practising at home:** A bank of **games and activities** that you and your child can play anytime can be found on the parent's website.

English not required!

Home–School Connect has been carefully designed to allow *all* parents to be involved with their child's English education, whether you speak English yourself or not. This booklet provides you with all of the tools you will need to help your child, in your own language.



Additionally, the role of the parent in *Home–School Connect* is to motivate and to lay the ground-work for learning at school. A large part of this can (and should) be done in your child's first language. So a lack of English is no problem at all.

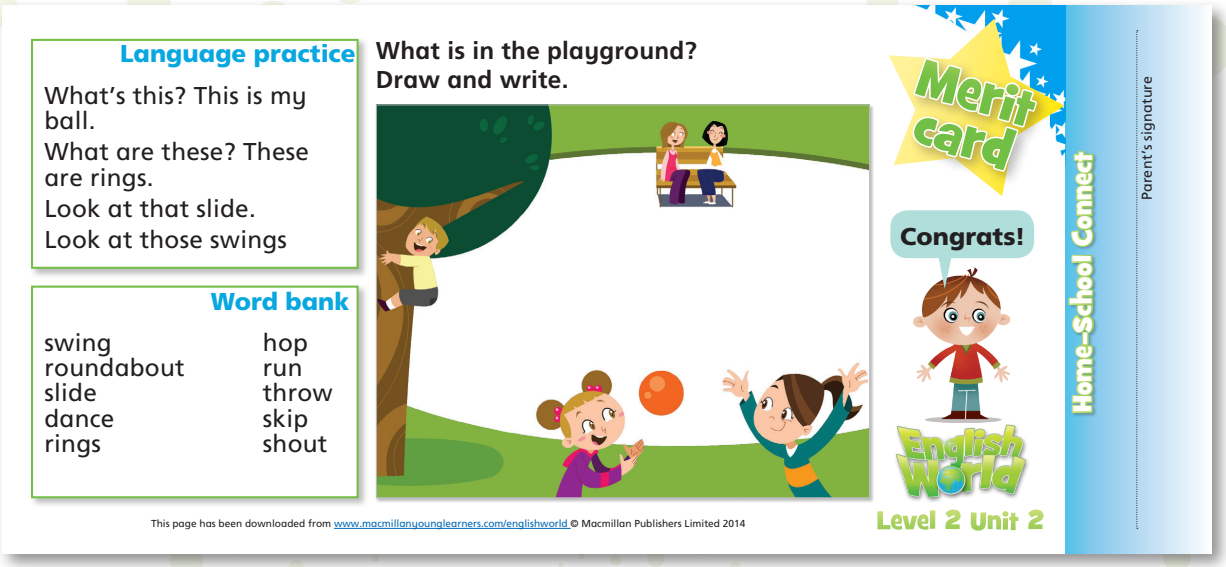
The Parent's Booklet is not designed to test, review or demonstrate all of the language from the unit – its purpose is to encourage conversation about learning between you and your child, to celebrate learning English and to encourage the regular practice of English at home.

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The merit card

What is the merit card?

Each merit card features an enjoyable activity that links to the unit topic. The activity invites your child to use some of the language they have learnt in a creative context. In this way, the activity recycles language skills and builds on them. The language practice box and word bank contain phrases and words to help your child complete the activity. You can find a translation of all of the merit card activities on the parent's website.



Language practice

What's this? This is my ball.
What are these? These are rings.
Look at that slide.
Look at those swings

Word bank

swing, roundabout, slide, dance, rings, hop, run, throw, skip, shout

What is in the playground? Draw and write.

Merit card

Congrats!

English World

Level 2 Unit 2

Home–School Connect

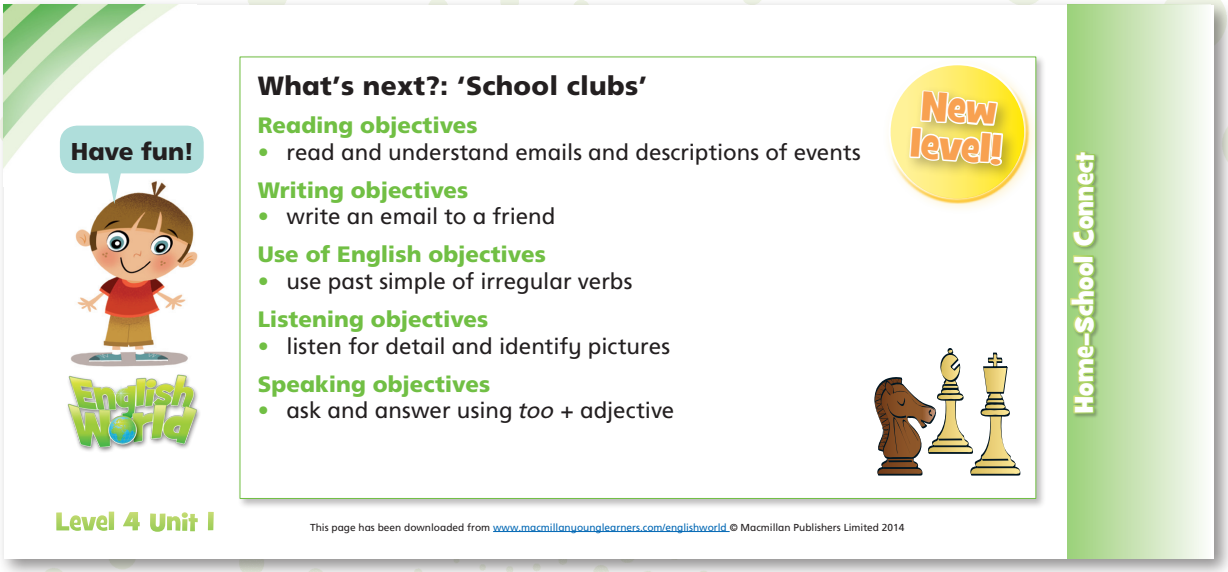
Parent's signature

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Your child may be asked by the teacher to complete the activity at home, or they may have already completed it in class. When your child has completed the activity, they will show you the card for you to sign. This is the ideal time for you to ask them more about what they are learning (in your own language). For example, if your child is learning about toys or food, you can ask them about what their friends like. If they have drawn something you can ask them to tell you about their picture. If they have conducted a survey, you can ask them to tell you about what they discovered. For younger children you will need to ask more structured questions, for example, 'Does everybody like tennis?' or 'Does anybody eat cake?' If your child is older you may ask more open questions, for example, 'What did you find out?'

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On the reverse of the merit card is a section called 'What's next?' It has a list of key objectives from the next unit, broken down into Reading, Writing, Use of English, Listening and Speaking objectives. They are listed so that you are aware of what your child will be learning next. The teacher will probably suggest that your child practises the reading and writing objectives in their own language at home with you so that they are already familiar with the text type and context when they start the topic. A list of the topics and reading and writing objectives can be found on the parent's website.



How often will my child receive a merit card?

A merit card will be sent home with your child at the end of every unit. The merit card is a celebration for the whole class for completing the unit, so remember to congratulate your child when they show you the merit card. How often they bring home a merit card will depend on the number of English lessons they have each week.

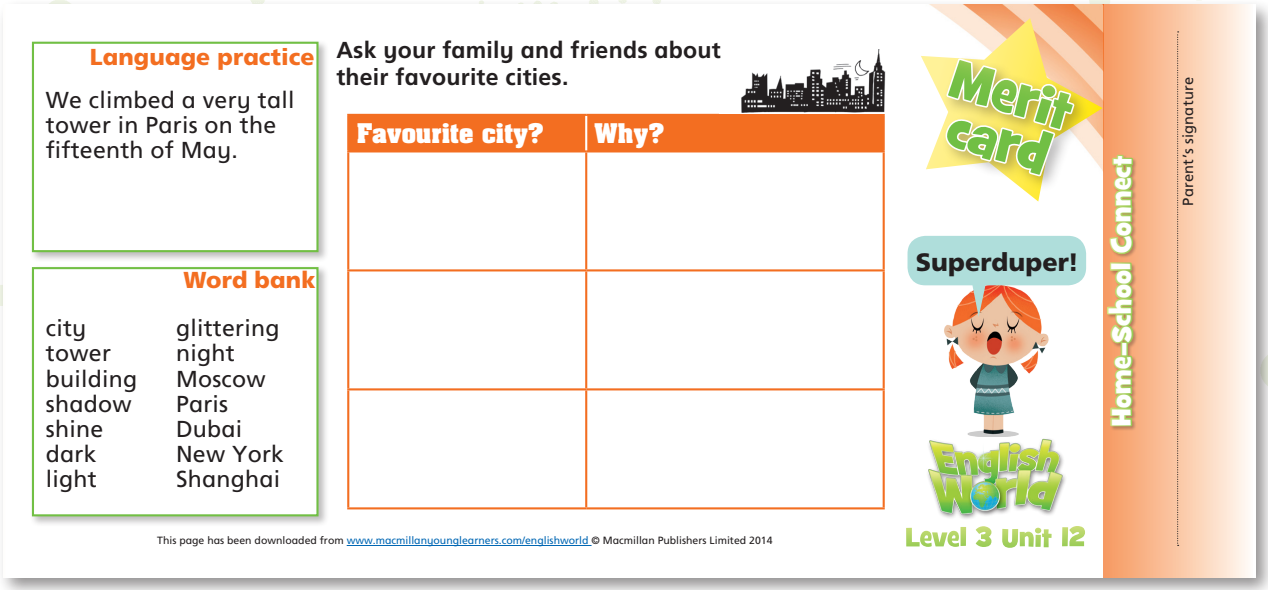
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What should my child do with the merit card?

When your child brings home the merit card, they should look at the Language practice section before completing the activity. You should spend time looking at the merit card with them, discussing what they have learnt. Encourage them to talk you through the *Language practice* and *Word bank* to demonstrate their new language.

Your child may have completed the activity in class. If they have not, have them complete it with you. (A translation of all of the activities can be found on the parent's website so that you can help your child understand what they have to do to complete the task.) The activity on the merit card is designed to be completed within 10 minutes, although longer can be spent on it if your child wishes.

When your child has completed the activity, have a look at it and ask them about what they have done. For example, if the unit is about cities around the world, ask your child about their favourite city and what city they would like to visit and why. Finally, sign the merit card (on the dotted line). Your child should then return the merit card to the teacher.



Language practice

We climbed a very tall tower in Paris on the fifteenth of May.

Word bank

city	glittering
tower	night
building	Moscow
shadow	Paris
shine	Dubai
dark	New York
light	Shanghai

Ask your family and friends about their favourite cities.

Favourite city?	Why?

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Merit card

Superduper!

English World

Level 3 Unit 12

Home–School Connect

Parent's signature

SIGN HERE

What's next?

How can I support my child to achieve the next targets?

The 'What's next?' section on the reverse of the merit card gives you a glimpse of what your child will be learning next. There are lots of things that you can do to help them achieve their next targets and they don't all have to be in English. Doing activities in your own language helps your child activate knowledge that they already have. This helps to prepare them for learning about a topic in a new language. Here are some ideas:

Topic: The easiest way to help your child prepare for a new unit is to look at what the topic is about. If the topic is about the environment, visit a local park or forest and talk about the plants, trees and animals you see.

Text type: If the reading or writing activity is about an information leaflet, collect leaflets on a range of topics and look at them together. What do you notice about them? The same goes for a reading or writing activity about a newspaper – show your child some newspapers and talk about the headlines with them.

Collecting vocabulary: Look at the unit title with your child and ask them to guess, in their first language, which words they might learn. Make a list so that they can check off the words as they learn them in English. For a topic on nature, ask your child to photograph things, like trees, grass, insects, etc.

A list of topics and reading and writing objectives can be found on the parent's website. Your child's teacher may also suggest other things you can do to motivate your child and help them to succeed.



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