

First Class 11th-15th May

Dear Parents/Guardians and children.

Thank you again for all the work that you are continuing to do at home. I've included an update with more for this week, May 11th-May 15th. There is a bit of a change for reading and Irish as we have reached the end of Read at Home and Léigh sa Bhaile. As always, they are just suggestions and you can judge what is appropriate for your circumstances.

Spellbound: Week 31. You can do the normal daily blocks of words and written exercises for week 31 with a test at the end. Last week was the beginning of five letter words and it's straight on to six letter words for part of this week! A big step up in a few weeks.

Reading: Before the closure the children were reading from a scheme of books called PM Readers as part of the Literacy Lift Off programme. The publishers are providing free access to this work online. If possible find the level your child was reading at and start from there. They may recognise the books they read already. I recommend one new book a day to the end of the level and then moving on to the next level. This is what they were doing at Mrs Naughton's table for Lift Off. It's also a good idea to read the book from the day before as well. This is what they did at Josie's table for Lift Off. The link is: info.cengage.com/ecollection_2020. I just entered that address in the address bar without www. at the start. You can register there. The school Eircode is H91FX95 which is needed.

Irish: The Bua na Cainte scheme we use at school is available to download. It's quite a large file so it may not be possible for all to download and store. The link is <http://www.edco.ie/bua>. We were on the 7th topic Sa Bhaile. If possible the children can look back on bits and pieces on what we've covered so far. There is an awful lot of content/activities in each topic and lesson. We don't get to do everything at school, there is just too much. There are songs/poems for each area. When you click in to a Ceacht/Lesson the little speech bubble will play a conversation with the characters. I get the kids to repeat and then relate to themselves if possible. The computer game controller icon has interactive activities they really like. Please make sure the little mouse in the corner is clicked so that the text appears on screen too. I'm not assigning particular areas/lessons. Take some time to become familiar with how to navigate the icons/menus. The children will soon figure out the bits they like best. As I said if they can listen back and do some of the activities daily from different topics it will help to keep their ear in on the language. The children can practice Irish at home with simple sentences if possible. The children can try to name things in the home in Irish or look them up. They can even watch some Cúla 4 on TG4 and do bits from <http://www.cula4.com/en/>.

It will all help. You could pick a random page in Léigh sa Bhaile from earlier in the year to practice again.

Maths Time: Pages 64 and 65. Same advice as last week for questions like part A, number 10. The 2 tens that is part of the 26 units must move over to join the 6 tens and leave the 6 units where they are.

Fractions could be a topic for children to focus on this week. We look at halves in first class. They can find where the halfway mark would be of objects at home like the table/window/clock/tiles/door etc. They could also share sets of objects out in two equal parts to find half of the total number. Crayons/pencils/lego pieces/toys/clothes pegs etc.

A nice interactive 100 square is available by Googling ‘Splat Square’ and choosing the primarygames link.

<https://primarygames.co.uk/pg2/splat/splatsq100.html>

Window on the world: We’re going to do a bit more SESE work this week using the online book. I hope this is working ok for you. No worries if it’s not.

Science-Materials Page 62+63

<https://www.edcolearning.ie/Book/Page?bookId=book327&chapterId=chapter32&pageId=page62>

The children can list the things from the classroom picture that are made from the different materials. For Part C it’s ok to have a material under more than one heading eg metal could be under strong and smooth. I’d like the children to focus on a material a day (or two materials for one day) at home from the 6 listed on page 62. The children can find a few things in their environment made from each material. Maybe Monday could be items made from glass etc. They could make a daily list, label drawings of them etc.

History- Houses Then and Now Page 66+67

<https://www.edcolearning.ie/Book/Page?bookId=book327&chapterId=chapter34&pageId=page66>

It would be great if the children wrote down one thing the same/different about the houses as well as orally identifying the others. It’s fine to just write in the answers/events in a regular copy etc. There is no need to try to take screenshots etc to print the pages to write on.

Geography- Our World Page 68+69

<https://www.edcolearning.ie/Book/Page?bookId=book327&chapterId=chapter35&pageId=page68>

Perhaps the children could come up with a few ideas of their own.

Writing: Please continue with some of the writing suggestions outlined before. Some might like to make a little diary of events/activities they are up to.

I repeat again what I said about each household doing what suits you and your circumstances the best.

Kind regards and stay safe everyone,

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