Dear Parents & Guardians,

We hope you all had a lovely long weekend and enjoyed the beautiful weather. Well done to all pupils and parents on your continuous great effort, engaging with school activities and work throughout this time. As we have reached the final month of the school year, as a whole school we have made a decision to reduce the suggested work to the core subjects- English, Gaeilge and Maths and promote fun and creative activities over the next three weeks.

Please continue to send samples of pupils work in any area to nicholasm2008@gmail.com or mnicholas@ballinaprimaryschool.com or michelleogorman20@yahoo.com we would be delighted to engage and correspond with pupils great work.

English: Theme, ‘Minibeasts- The Lifecycle of a Butterfly’.

Reading for this week includes any books you may have at home linked to insects, namely butterflies and the lifecycle of a butterfly if possible.

Here are some further suggestions for books this week,

* Ten Magic Butterflies by Danica McKellar
* My Oh My What a Butterfly by Dr. Seuss
* The Amazing Lifecycle of Butterflies by Kay Barnham
* Charlie the Caterpillar by Dom DeLuise

The story we recommend pupils read and interact with mainly this week is, ‘The Cautious Caterpillar’, <https://www.twinkl.ie/resource/t-l-526348-the-cautious-caterpillar-life-cycle-of-a-butterfly-powerpoint>. This PowerPoint presentation is available to download on Twinkl. Please note, pupils will find some words quite challenging such as, ‘Cautious, chrysalis, nectar, mate’.

Please read this story to pupils and after a few days, hopefully pupils should be able to read a few words independently.

Suggested vocabulary to focus on this week:

‘leaf, egg, butterfly, stem, plant, caterpillar, skin, crawls, grow, shed’.

Two new tricky words for this week: **busy, after.**

Writing activity: This week pupils will focus on writing three or four sentences based on the lifecycle of a butterfly. Their writing may take the format, First, Second, Third etc. The PowerPoint linked above may be used as a stimulus for pupils writing. The slides may act as a prompt to help pupils. At the end of this writing activity pupils may draw the stages of the lifecycle.

 Handwriting: On page 63 of ‘Ready Steady Write’, pupils will focus on rewriting the sentences using capital letters and at the end, adding a question mark or exclamation mark.

On the final page of the book page 64, pupils will hopefully have no problem revising all of the lower and upper case letters, as they trace each letter. Over the next month, we encourage you to ask pupils to write various words, including their tricky words on different materials such as a whiteboard/ chalkboard. Continuous practice will help pupils to become proficient forming all letters correctly.

Phonics: Pupils will work on page 58 in ‘Just Phonics’ continuing to revise ‘sh, ch, th and wh’ sounds. Pupils will also look the ‘\_ash’ sound on page 59 this week, focusing on words such as ‘cash, lash, mash and rash’. Some pupils this week will focus on pages 60, the ‘\_ump’ word families. This page also contains lots of revision for pupils focusing on the ‘all, old, ash and ump’ word families. On page 61 pupils focus on the ‘ink’ and ‘ank’ word families.

Over the next month, please continue to revise all phonics sounds with pupils, you may utilise the small ‘Just Phonics’ book as a revision guide.

Gaeilge: We are focusing on revision again this week. On page 102 of ‘Abair Liom’, pupils will add various items to the classroom. Here are the instructions to help parents and pupils in English for this activity.

* Tarraingígí cathaoir in aice leis an mbord – Draw a chair beside the table
* Tarraingígí clog ar an mballa- Draw a clock on the wall
* Tarraingígí trí chrián ar an mbord- Draw three crayons on the table
* Tarraingígí cúig leabhar ar an urlár- Draw five books on the floor
* Tarraingígí bláthanna ar an gcófra- Draw flowers on the press
* Tarraingígí múinteoir in aice leis an gclár bán- Draw a teacher beside the white board
* Tarraingígí Seán ina sheasamh- Draw Seán standing up
* Tarraingígí Síofra ina suí ar an gcathaoir- Draw Síofra sitting on the chair

On page 103, On the last page pupils have the opportunity to engage in a board game. If you have a dice and two counters you can play this game together, alternatively you can improvise with coins/ pieces of paper etc. When pupils land on an object, they must try and say the word as Gaeilge.

Maths: This week, we will continue to focus on recognising/ writing numbers before, after and between a specified number within 10, including 0.

On page 112, in ‘Busy At Maths’, pupils will focus on the number that comes between the two numerals.

On page 113, pupils focus on revision based on the numbers that come before or after the given numerals.

Page 114 is linked to chatting about the features of ‘Summer’, you may ask pupils to describe what they see in each picture/ how many \_\_\_ are in the picture? Pupils can then colour each picture neatly.

Here is some vocabulary linked to this topic:



The final required page for this week will focus on ‘capacity’. Namely, pupils will work on the concept of ‘full’ or ‘empty’, pupils should become familiar with this language and look around the house or play with various items which may be full or empty.

\*Please note, if possible on a daily basis this week, we would encourage you to complete a small amount of English/ Gaeilge/ Maths. We will attach numerous fun activities on separate documents which pupils may enjoy. Such activities will be based on topics such as ‘baking/ wellness/ sports/ water safety’ to name a few.

**Suggested timetable for this week:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Maths- BAM pg 112 | Eng- Just Phonics Workbook pg 58 or 60 | Handwriting- ‘Focusing on rewriting sentences’ pg 63 | Maths- BAM pg 114 | Gaeilge- Abair Liom pg 103 |
| Eng- Structured Writing Activity ‘The Lifecycle of a Butterfly’ | Gaeilge- Abair Liom pg 102 | Maths- BAM pg 113 | English- Just Phonics Workbook pg 59 or 61 | Handwriting pg 604 Revision of writing all upper and lower case letters  |
| Revise ‘two new tricky words’ and last week’s tricky words. Reading practice ‘The Cautious Caterpillar’. | Choose an activity of choice from the ‘links/ additional documents’ | Choose an activity of choice from the ‘links/ additional documents’ | Choose an activity of choice from the ‘links/ additional documents’ | Maths- BAM pg 115 |