Dear Parents and children,

I hope you are all safe and well. Below is a list of work/suggestions to complete at your own discretion during school closure.

1. **Irish**
* Revise body parts as gaeilge. Hand(s) - lámh(a); chin – smig; head – ceann; feet/legs –cos(a); ear(s) – cluas(a); back – droim, stomach – bolg; eye(s) – súil(e); teeth – fiacla; mouth – béal; nose – srón.

Ask children to show you each of these i.e. Taispeáin (Taspawn) dom do lámh…; You could ask children to draw the different body parts (3/4 a day). i.e. Tarraing (Tarring) béal. You could also have 4 drawn out on a page then ask them to circle each one or colour them i.e. Cuir ciorcal timpeall an srón.

* Revise colours. Blue – gorm; red – dearg; green – glas; yellow – buí; white – bán; black – dubh; brown – donn; purple – corcra; grey – liath; pink – bán-dearg. Take out their crayons and ask them to show you the colours i.e. Taispeáin dom corcra, etc.
1. **English**
2. Please revise all sounds covered so far. Refer to Sound Notebook. Sounds from /s/ to /l/ have been taught. Check child’s recognition of these sounds and names. Practice letter formation and make sure they are formed correctly. Sing the songs that go with them and come up with things that start with each sound. They could draw pictures and label them. Spend a few days on this (at your own discretion). Children could also write sentences using the sentence starters and vocabulary: Look at, Here is, likes, was, he, she, the, we, are, etc and vocab from the Wandsville wallet.
3. Introduce the **new letter sound /f/.** If you have access to Youtube show them this video and song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHTZEDsPb-4> . Freeze the picture before story starts and ask the children to predict what they think is going to happen in the story. Do they have any connections?, etc. Feel free to play the story a few times to check for understanding. Ask questions to gauge comprehension. Play the song for the children and get them to do the actions and learn the words. Now look at how /f/ is formed – Please refer to the Jolly Phonics sheet in their homework pack as this /f/ has a curly tail. Get the child to form the letter in the air with their fingers, on the table, on their hands, etc, before writing it on the sheet. If you had a whiteboard or a chalkboard, they could practice on those first and then tell you something that starts with /f/ first. i.e. ‘I see a fish’… Children then work away on Jolly Phonics /f/ worksheet. Check the formation from the bottom of the page. Children could make the letter with playdough, in sand/flour, on sand paper, etc. **Spend the week on the letter /f/** and revise the other sounds covered. Get children to draw pictures of things starting with /f/, label them and write simple sentences.

**Second week**- Introduce **the new letter sound /b/.** Do the exact same as above with /f/. Keep revising all the other letter sounds covered and check formations and pencil grip.

1. Story from your personal collection – Talk about cover, title, author, illustrator, etc. Children make predictions, connections (notice a connection in their own personal lives similar to story). Pause the reading every now and then to check for comprehension. Ask open and closed questions like, I wonder… or what colour was the ball? etc. At the end of the story ask the children whether they liked the story, and what was their favourite part. Children could write 2/3 sentences about the story depending on their level of ability. Give the children the sentence starters from above and maybe write a few of the words on a post-it for them to copy. Let the children then write their own sentences (on their own!). Some children may want to practice emergent writing by sounding out all by themselves without any help. Remind children to write on the line and have a space between their words.
2. Oral Language lessons – ‘Over the Moon’ series available free using this link - <https://www.gillexplore.ie/gill-explore-resources/over-the-moon-junior-infants-skills-book?Chapters=5419&ResourceTypes=0>

**Please don’t go past unit 6**

* Complete the story ‘Lamb Goes to the Vet’ (children have this done but good to go through again). Ask children open and closed questions like above.
* Look at the Unit 06 Oral Language poster & Interactive Resources section. There are lots of activities to complete here. The children won’t be able to do all the sections here as we haven’t covered some of the new vocabulary or sounds but there is no harm in trying them out.
1. Reading – They all should have a pink paired reading book in their bag that should see them through for the week. For anyone who was absent or if you’d like an extra reading activity they can read this book with you from the ‘Over the Moon’ series called ‘Show and Tell’. You will have to help them out. <https://content.yudu.com/web/1yssw/0A224cw/OTMJnrInfsFReader6/html/index.html?refUrl=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.gillexplore.ie%252Fgill-explore-resources%252Fover-the-moon-junior-infants-skills-book%253FChapters%253D5419%2526ResourceTypes%253D0>

For the second week the children can read this book called ‘The Vet’:

<https://content.yudu.com/web/1yssw/0A224cw/OTMJnrInfsNfReader6/html/index.html?origin=reader>

Feel free to ask questions, write sentences and draw pictures for these too!

1. **Maths**
* **Week 1** - Revise numbers 0 – 6; check children are forming numbers correctly; Count up to 6 and back from 6; Draw a number line from 0 – 6 and blank out some numbers and ask children if they know what numbers are missing. Ask children to draw a certain amount of objects and write numbers underneath. Form numbers in sand/flour, using playdough, on paper using nice colours, etc. Complete worksheet from pack that goes with the number 6.

Songs and videos for number 6 –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6j8YWSRGHU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4V1nMOeDOc>

* Simple addition up to 6. Draw out story sums for the children and get them to solve them. i.e. ( ) and ( ) makes ( ). You could also do this orally i.e. Show them 2 oranges and 3 oranges and ask them what it makes, but get them to repeat whole sum not just the answer.
* Ordinal number – focus on **first** and **last.** You can introduce 2nd, 3rd , etc when children have gotten the concept. Get the children to line up their toys and say they are the bus stop/supermarket till, etc. Ask them – who is first/last?, etc.. Do this a few times. You could also write the words first and last for them and the children could put them in the correct places. Have the child complete the first/last worksheet from the pack.
* **Week 2** - Introduction to 7. You could start off with Sesame Street’s Count Dracula 7 song and dance - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdU7sH2LdMk>

Write a big 7 on a page for the children. Show them how to form it correctly. They make 7 with their fingers in the air, on the table, on the palm of their hands, etc. Get them to form 7 using playdough, in sand/flour, on sandpaper, etc… Let them practice the number 7 on a whiteboard/blackboard/page while saying ‘I can see 7 ….’. Ask them to order items into groups of 7 (classify objects into sets) i.e. arrange lego blocks into groups of 7 by colour, arrange pasta shapes into groups of 7, etc. Then when they are competent at that you could mix it up using the numbers 0 – 7. Complete the worksheet on 7 from the pack. **Spend the week on 7** and revising the other numbers covered. Now you can also incorporate simple sums up to 7.

Videos with the number 7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6Xt5b_tdSg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsTxqd6cj3w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tx0rvuXIRg>

1. **History**
* The story of St. Patrick. There are numerous stories of St. Patrick available on Youtube. There is also a very nice version called The Story of St. Patrick on Twinkl Ireland. Parents can avail of free membership for one month using the following code IRLTWINKLHELPS at [www.twinkl.ie/offer](http://www.twinkl.ie/offer?fbclid=IwAR3peTxali9i6ZKSziBHN5rVtCcpxptxO0p7fYV8N3Hyh5s6nXP7sMbOuWU). There are lots of activities on Twinkl to go with the story, such as sequencing events from the story. Alternatively you could ask the children what happened first, next and in the last (link with Maths). They could draw a picture of each stage (3/4 pictures), number them and label or write sentence with your help.
* Story - Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (integration with Maths)

Twinkl has a nice version of the story too if you choose to get the free membership. There are lots of activities to complete afterwards also i.e. sequencing, or do same as above as for St. Patrick.

1. **Geography**
* People who help us – The Vet (link with English) – read the story ‘The Vet’ from the English work. Explain to the children the role of the Vet.

Stories – Paula the Vet by Julia Donaldson <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gPjtnWMaYh4>

I want to be a Veterinarian <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ6mc1NCylo>

Awesome Animal Vets <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8ckAFRd5Eo>

Twinkl also has a big section on Vets that you can have a look at. Children could act out role-play scenarios for drama and Aistear also using their toys.

You could draw things a vet uses and doesn’t use and the children could circle what they use and x what they don’t use or children could draw things a vet uses and write a sentence about the vet.

1. **Science:**
* Spring – discuss the change of seasons with the children. Chat about the four seasons and what order they come in. Ask them if they know anything about spring. Show them spring pictures from Google. Talk about the animals born in Spring, different types of flowers, etc. They had been working in a florist in Aistear so they can tell you a bit about that.

Songs/ dances about Spring:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DobrRgD5aOU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZjpI6fgYSY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A16Cu6Ic1pA&list=RDA16Cu6Ic1pA&start_radio=1>

Children could draw Spring pictures and write a sentence. Twinkl also has lots of information on Spring and nice colouring pages the children could complete also.

* Week 2 – Children could pick their favourite Spring animal. i.e lamb, bunny and make a little project about it. Research information on the animal; where it lives, what it likes to eat, what its mammy and daddy are called, etc.

**Other suggestions for busy work**

* Make a Mother’s Day card for your mam/ make her a nice present/ Do something nice for her
* Scissors work – ask children to cut around shapes
* Children could draw/paint Spring flowers or animals
* Make a Spring collage using pictures from old magazines/newspapers
* Build a Vet’s surgery or a florist with lego
* Act out scenes from Snow White with their toys/siblings
* Cosmic kids Yoga on Youtube is very good - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWSgNEs4IPg>
* Just Dance on Youtube has a great selection of songs that the children can dance to
* Gonoodle is also a great website for keeping the children active
* Go outside and do 7 jumping jacks, 7 press ups, etc
* Sort all the socks into pairs
* Watch cartoons in Irish on TG4/Cula 4

Wishing you all the very best during this time and I’m really looking forward to seeing you all soon. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Kind regards,

Anna O’Hanlon