**5th / 6th Class – Activities for 25/05/20 – 05/06/20**

Dear parent,

I hope that everybody is keeping well. I have listed below a series of suggested activities for the two weeks from Monday, May 25th to Friday, June 5th.

**Collection of Children’s Items from School:**

On **Wednesday (27th) and Thursday (28th), from 12:30 to 3pm**, weather permitting, I will leave the children’s boxes outside the school door, so that you can collect their belongings (remaining books, copies, stationery, artwork, etc.) If the weather does not allow this, I will leave them in the lobby area of the school. If this is the case, please enter the school lobby one at a time only. The boxes will be labelled with the children’s names. In the case of 6th class pupils, I will also include any documents (tests, birth certs, etc.) from their folders that the school is not required to maintain. Please bring along a bag or box to collect these items, as we need keep the class boxes. If you are unable to collect your child’s items this week, I will make them available next week also.

**Secondary School Pupil Passports:**

To any parents of 6th class pupils who have yet to return the ‘Pupil Passport’ forms, please do so, either by mail to the school, or to teachermeelick@gmail.com.

**Graduation Nominations:**

Again, to those who have not yet returned these, please so at your earliest convenience.

**Class Magazine:**

Typically, towards the end of the school year, I would encourage 5th and 6th class students to submit articles on a variety of subjects, which would come together to comprise the 5th / 6th Class School Magazine. We will try to continue with this tradition this year.

When I email you with the login details for the coming week’s Zoom lesson, I will attach a Word document containing the content pages of a few past class magazines. Hopefully, this will give the children some ideas of topics on which they might like to contribute (although they are certainly not limited to these – these are examples only, and they are free to write on **any topic that takes their interest**). Ordinarily, I would try to allocate topics in situations where a number of children wanted to cover the same subject matter but, on this occasion, I’ll be happy to take whatever submissions are made and, if some topics are replicated, so be it.

As many creative writing articles (**short stories, poetry, recounts**, etc.) as possible would be most welcome. **Procedural writing** (such as recipes) is always a popular choice also. And, if your child has a favourite piece of writing from the past school year, they can of course submit this.

If possible, please try to submit articles in Word (or equivalent) format. The exception to this would be if the submission was a piece of artwork, in which case this would need to be scanned or photographed, and might be a pdf, img, jpeg or other file format.

And (for your child), just a mention of some minor technicalities (as these were items that were covered in the last few lessons of this year’s coding and computer instruction):

* If you see a red line beneath a word, this probably indicates an incorrect spelling – try to correct this
* Place only a **single space** between each word (even if the space looks very small)
* **Do not type in capital letters** (use these only when needed)
* If you can find an **image** that suits your subject matter, please include this above, beneath or within the text. We will be printing in black and white, but this does not mean that you can’t use colour images (it just means that they will appear in tones of grey). However, images without backgrounds often work best. And, it’s often useful to include the word ‘**clipart**’ when googling the image that you are looking for
* Before sending me your file as an email attachment, if possible, please name it with both the title of the subject matter, and with your name (for example: ‘Hurling Review – Paul’) – this just makes it a little easier for me

We will treat this as the ‘Creative Writing’ task for the next fortnight. As always with the class magazine, there is no compulsion to participate, but I would hope that everybody might try to contribute at least one item (and please feel free to contribute more than one item if so desired).

**Please try to submit your work by Friday, June 5th**, as editing and printing will take some time.

When the final magazine has been completed, we will endeavour to distribute these.

**Zoom Lesson:**

The online Zoom maths lessons have gone well thus far; well done to all those who have been taking part. If time allows, in continuation of the unit, ‘The Circle’, that we worked on with both 5th and 6th class groups this week, I would suggest attempting to complete a selection of the exercises that we did not get to; I made suggestions during the lessons for which ones might be worth attempting.

Should you wish to access additional resources for any topic that we cover, Folens also offer a ‘Planet Maths Satellite Book’ for every level of the programme. This provides additional activities, based on the content covered within the main textbook, and is free to access via the Folens Online information that I have provided on previous postings.

Next week’s lessons will be as follows:

**5th Class: Rules and Properties (Topic 23)**

**6th Class: Number Rules (Topic 27)**

These lessons will likely follow the same schedule as last week, with 6th class groups on Wednesday, and 5th class groups on Thursday. As per usual, I will confirm this when I email you with the login details. For the lesson, your child should also have a copybook, a calculator, and the usual stationery to hand. As time will be limited, it would be a good idea for your child to have a look over the unit prior to the lesson.

As previously, Ms. Keane will conduct a lesson with her maths group, and will be in touch with the relevant details.

**Class Dojo:**

Most of you have now connected to Class Dojo. Keep the questions coming in – it’s great to see so much good work taking place.

**English**:

As I have now amalgamated what was Mrs. Lynch’s English group with mine, henceforth, I’ll simply refer to it as my group. Last week, I recommended ‘**Charlotte’s Web**’ as a new novel, should you have completed the previous one (with free online links for the novel and workbook). If you have been fast enough to have completed this already, or if this was not to your liking and you are seeking another recommendation, please let me know.

Ms. Keane has posted work assignments for her English groups.

Please continue with your activities from **Call of the Sea / Smart Ice-Cream** and **Better English Literary Skills**. These are excellent resources for comprehension, grammar and vocabulary activities, and I encourage you to keep working on them (once again, I provided links for free online access to these in my work list dated 27/04/20).

* **My Spelling Workbook**: Unit 16: First 11 spellings in week 1, second 11 spellings in week 2, complete exercises, test spellings
* Creative Writing: I hope you had a chance to write a recount over the past two weeks. As I said, the class magazine will account for your creative writing task for the coming fortnight.
* We do ‘**Dingbats**’ puzzles regularly in class, which the children enjoy. There are a good number of them on this link (we have done many of these before but not for quite some time obviously): https://www.quizmasters.biz/DB/Pic/Dingbats/Dingbats.html

**Gaeilge**:

* As previously, I would suggest selecting words from the Seo Leat unit that you are currently working on.
* And, as I’ve said before, if any questions arise regarding Gaeilge exercises, please contact me.

**Maths**:

* **Mental Maths**: Unit 33 – 34 (one unit per week, including problems and Friday Review)
* **Plant Maths**: As I hope to be introducing the topics of ‘**Rules and Properties**’ and ‘**Number Rules**’ during the Zoom lesson, it would be appropriate to review on this unit (as well as completing further activities from ‘**The Circle**’).
* **Mathletics:** We still have access to this, so keep up the good work!
* The following link contains maths activities geared towards 5th and 6th classes: https://www.mathsweek.ie/2019/5th-6th-class/

**Geography and Science**:

* Small World, Unit 16: ‘Transport’ – read p. 89-93, discuss and complete written exercises – Textbook, p.91 (1-6), p.93 (1-7), Workbook, p. 37 (A, B)

**History**:

* Small World, Unit 17: ‘The Troubles’ – read p. 90-95, discuss and complete written exercises – Textbook, p.92 (1-3), p.95 (A, B, C – and any parts of D or E if you have time to do so), Workbook, p. 40, 41, 42

**Visual Arts:**

‘Seomra Ranga’ (https://www.seomraranga.com/links/arts-links/visual-arts/) has a substantial list of links to pages with arts and crafts ideas.

As before, scoilnet.ie. is a good resource for art ideas.

See the new Visual Arts Challenge (‘**Perspective Drawing Activity**’) in the Clare Education Centre ‘Challenges’ link below.

**Music:**

Music Generation have published their online lessons, and this will be the last of these for the current school year. Please click on the following links in order to access it. Your tutor for this final week is **Glen Scully** who demonstrates how to combine a loop pedal with music tech to create music.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/g3raz9l92t53pw9/Kids%20Ceol%20Music%20Gen.mp4?dl=0

**Clare Education Centre ‘Challenges’ – Challenge 5:**

Here is the link for all the latest Clare Education Centre Challenges for Clare Primary School Pupils – Creative Writing, Baking, ‘STEAM’ and Visual Arts:

https://www.clareed.ie/clareed-news/307-clare-education-centre-challenges-for-clare-primary-school-pupils.html?utm\_source=newsletter\_991&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=post-primary-newsletter-1st-may

The **#GAAPrimary** initiative have launched their latest challenges, which is available via the following link:

Issue 5: https://learning.gaa.ie/sites/default/files/Issue%205%20Senior%20Classes.pdf

Good luck with the ongoing work – I look forward to hearing from you, and I’ll see you over Zoom ☺