

Ballykeel Primary School

March/April News Sheet 2026



Topics this half term:

Long, long ago.....When Great, Great, Great, Great Gran was a girl.



Dear Parents,

The idea of this news sheet is to inform you of the work your child is doing in school. It is also a place where if we need any things for topic work etc that we can keep you easily informed. We hope that this will bridge the gap between the classroom and home.

Please enjoy the poems and songs within this news sheet with your child. We hope you find this useful.

J Thompson & A McWhirter

READING

Reading is one of the most important ways you can help your child. We were greatly encouraged when speaking to parents during interview week by the improvements in reading and the help that the children are given at home. It just shows that reading, every day, can make a big difference!



MENTAL MATHS

We will be sending home some simple Mental Maths sums for you to go over with your child.

This is to consolidate what we have been doing in class and to develop your child's quick recall of the number facts. If your child is able, please feel free to work with larger numbers.

Please help your child to learn these simple sums, this will improve their Maths skills!



SPELLINGS

We are really pleased with how well the children are coping with their spellings.

However, it is important that they are written out neatly each night and then signed by you.

Keep up the good work – the Friday test scores have been great!!



IMPORTANT DATES

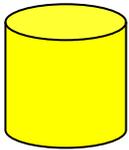
- 5th March – World Book Day**
- 13th and 16th March – Staff training**
- 17th March – St Patrick's Day Bank Holiday**
- 1st April – Finish for Easter holidays**
- 16th April – Return to school after holiday**
- 4th May – May Day Bank Holiday**



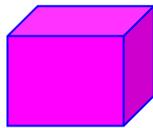
Maths ideas for you at home

Keep praising and encouraging your child to work with numbers. A great idea is playing Snakes and Ladders with your child as it involves counting forwards and backwards.

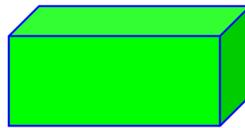
In the next term we will be looking at 3D shapes – cube, cuboid, cone, cylinder and sphere. Encourage your child to see if they can find any of these shapes around the home.



cylinder



cube



cuboid



cone



sphere

USEFUL WEBSITES AND APPS

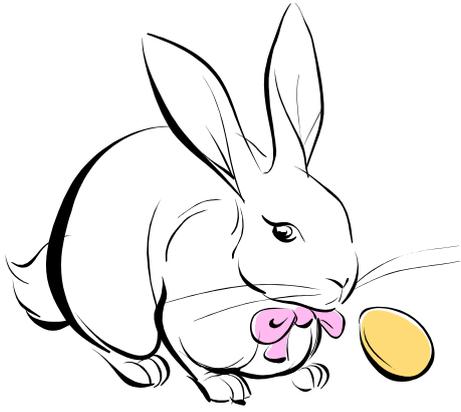


- Number bonds - <https://www.ictgames.com/saveTheWhale/index.html>
- Shapes - <https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math/geometry/shapes-splat-game/>
- Phonics - [Learn to Read with Phonics | Starfall Education](#)
- Phonics cvc words - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/phonics/balloon-phonics-cvc-game>

Wild about wildlife!



In P2 we are continually finding out about plants and animals – and the children love it! When you are out and about, help your children to spot flowers, plants and wildlife. Talk to them about names and any information you can think of as they love to hear facts and stories. In school we are going to be outside as much as possible. Fingers crossed for some good weather!



Bunnies

Bunnies are brown
Bunnies are white
Bunnies are always
An Easter delight.

Bunnies are cuddly
The large and the small.
But I like chocolate ones
The best of them all.



Five Brown Eggs

Five brown eggs in a nest of hay,
One yellow chick popped out to play.

Four brown eggs in a nest of hay,
Another yellow chick cheep-cheeped

Good day.

Three brown eggs in a nest of hay,
Crack went another one, Hip hooray.

Two brown eggs in a nest of hay,
One more chick pecked his shell
away.

One brown egg in a nest of hay,
The last yellow chick popped out to
say,

Happy Easter!

HAVE A

HAPPY EASTER