Hello to you all. I hope that everyone is keeping well. As we enter the Summer period it is important to enjoy the good weather and enjoy as much outside time as possible. Activities that I have previously posted such as, P.E. and the mini beast hunt are great outdoor activities. I have included more activities below and please feel free to send any pictures of the children partaking in them to the school face book page. If you wish to contact me please email the school website on stmarysspecialschooldrumcar@gmail.com.

Mark it FAO Declan McCoy and I will get it. If you wish to send your phone number to arrange a call, I am more than happy to oblige. Hopefully we continue our recovery and are back in September.

We have a student in our class leaving this month and unfortunately the usual graduation ceremony cannot proceed. We will miss you Kassy and I will be in touch soon to see how you are.

Stay safe and hopefully we are over the worst of it.

Declan.

**Communication**

Revise the signs that the children have done throughout the year. These are in the first home document and I will also insert below.

The class have been using Lámh for communication each day. The following link will give you free access to the online material.

<www.lamhsigns.org>

Simply follow below instructions:

1. Click ‘apply for membership’
2. Enter the code ‘lovelamh’
3. Follow the simple registration instructions.

The children have been using the following signs in class:

* **Greetings**
* Hello
* Goodbye
* **Food**
* Eat
* Drink
* Dinner
* Hot
* Cold
* Apple
* Banana
* Sweet
* Biscuit
* Burger
* Cheese
* **Feelings**
* Help
* Happy
* Good
* **Hygiene**
* Brush hair
* Brush teeth
* Toilet
* Clothes
* **Daily use**
* Mummy
* Bus
* Finished
* Boy
* Girl
* House
* Music
* bed

**Sentences**

Hello Mummy

Goodbye mummy

Thank you mummy

Good boy

Good girl

Eat dinner

Note: when doing the sign face your child and both do and say the sign. Praise any attempt, it doesn’t have to be perfect just a reasonable effort.

We also sing a daily Lámh song to the tune of ‘this is the way we…’

The child looks at a picture (please see below) and uses the associated sign whilst singing, for example, ‘this is the way we brush our teeth, brush our teeth, brush our teeth, this is the way we brush our teeth on a cold and frosty morning’.



Do above with your child using the signs and signing the song.

1. This is the way we get out of bed song
2. This is the way we use the toilet song
3. This is the way we put on our clothes
4. This is the eat the food song
5. This is the way we brush our teeth song
6. This is the way we brush our hair song
7. This is the way we say bye bye
8. This is the way we drive the bus

**Other useful websites for enhancing communication skills:**

https://www.starfall.com/h/

http://www.speechtx.com/language/language\_fun.htm

https://www.do2learn.com/

Add in

The sign for hot involves brushing the back of your hand on your forehead from left to right and saying hot. This can be used in the last week to explain it is hot as it is Summer and that we are on our Summer Holidays.

* Weather Song



* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUSbazn3STo

**Writing**

Depending on the individual child there are a number of techniques

1, Mark making: the child can experience making marks with paint, shaving foam or using their finger in sand.

2. The child can trace letter and numbers with hand over hand support

3. The child can draw lines horizontally and vertically between objects

4. The child can attempt to write their name and copy numbers and letters independently.

Writing resources can be obtained at[**www.twinkl.com**](http://www.twinkl.com)

There is currently a free sign up.

**Mathematics**

We use [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

This is a free service. Simply select the tab ‘Learning Games’.



* Then select any of the following three games.



* Depending on abilities you can select numbers to 5 or numbers to 10.

Other activities include your child counting out loud to ten, counting objects to 10 and ordering objects big or small.

Number song web links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2OpkQuOjig>

**ART**

Check out the free resources for Early Years on <www.scholastic.co.uk> and free resources on <www.twinkl.com>

**TACPAC**

The children in our class love tacpac and currently you can receive free sessions online.

To obtain 5 free TACPAC sessions:

Click on the following link

<http://tacpac.co.uk/product/set_5>

At the checkout enter code 8Q7A3TXS

Once this is done go to <http://www.facebook.com/TacpacLtd> to watch the short videos on how to do TACPAC.

**Music/Drama**

Caterpillar Music – Facebook page Caterpillar Music are offering live music sessions using puppets, musical fun and action songs. They are colourful and the songs are catchy and encourage the children to join in.



Rhythm and Rhyme These are sessions with rhymes and action songs that the children will know.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXQQB8lzMmQ>

**All about me**

This is an enjoyable project that incorporates history.

* Begin by cutting out a picture of your child and they label it me
* Next cut out a picture of family members (including extended family) and label each with their name
* Extend this to pets
* The next step involves a picture of your child when they were little.
* The next step involves making a profile for your child based on their picture.

I have \_\_\_\_ eyes

I have \_\_\_\_\_ hair

I am \_\_\_\_ years old

I like \_\_\_\_\_\_

Finally cut out a picture your child as a baby and talk with them about things that have changed and things that remain the same. For example, I was small and had no hair, but my eyes were still blue.

This information can be transferred to a scrap book, so the child now has their own personal book.

**Sensory Stories**

**The link below contains several sensory stories that your child may enjoy**

http://www.greenside.herts.sch.uk/Creative/SensoryStories/SensoryStories.html?fbclid=IwAR1EaTS k2mu633RKq\_wmwPCR9tJ6birjNkm6q7r4RIB9EsVTyQfdmJNMWCA