

## THE DAILY NEWS

This is an activity in most school day schedules and is a great way for children to practice their recount and sequencing skills. It can be done in a number of ways but here is a suggestion for Junior and Senior Primary.

### Infants to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

- Child tells you the news they have for the day. Stick to things in their own life rather than focusing on the news on the radio or television.
  - The day, the date, the weather
  - 1 or 2 things they did yesterday
- Write down what they tell you on a whiteboard or piece of paper.
- Child either types out what you have written or copies it down in a copybook.
- You could create your own little newsroom on the kitchen table by recording your child reading their news.
- Send the video to loved ones to keep in touch.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Class - 6<sup>th</sup> Class

- Child writes/types their news as well as news happening in the outside world.
- You could create your own little newsroom on the kitchen table by recording your child reading their news.
- Send the video to loved ones to keep in touch.

## IRISH TIMES

Even if you can't speak Irish, there are some great ways to pick up some vocabulary. One really easy activity is to pick a topic, for example: food, colours, sports, and so on, then write down 20 words associated with that topic in a list. Next, go to <https://www.focloir.ie/en/> and translate the words. The great thing is that almost every word on the website has an audio recording of it so you can listen how to pronounce the words. As a family, you could try to learn a few words every day!

For more advanced speakers, how about doing any of the tasks in the grids through Irish? The Daily News is probably the easiest one to do as *Gaeilge*.

Another idea is to sign up to <https://www.duolingo.com/course/ga/en/Learn-Irish> to learn some Irish - 5 to 10 minutes a day and who knows how fluent you'll be when you get back!

## Things to stay on top of each day

- ★ Spell Well
- ★ Master Your Maths
- ★ Reading
- ★ Revision Spellings
- ★ Practicing Tables
- ★ Phonics
- ★ Keeping active

## LITERACY CHOICE BOARD

1.

Write a letter/make a card for a loved one

2.

Practice your cutting skills

3.

Go on a 'sounds hunt' - find objects beginning with/ ending with the sound s/a/g etc.

4.

Read/listen to a story

5. Practice your blending skills:

- Use your child's 'sound bag' to make words together. Sound out the word slowly at first, then a little quicker - Can you hear the word?
- We can practice this skill orally/aurally too - the adult can slowly sound out a word and the child can guess the word.

6. Practice your fine-motor skills:

- use tweezers to pick up small items
- String pasta or Cheerios on a string
- Play with playdoh
- Use your pincher fingers to pick up items

7.

Perform all of our 'Jolly Phonics' songs with actions (Find the songs on Youtube)

8.

Practice writing your name and the names of people in your family

9.

Practice letter-formation:

- Rainbow writing
- Use a pencil
- Use playdoh
- Use a marker and whiteboard
- Complete a page in our Just Handwriting home/school links book

10.

Practice writing our sight words:

- Pick six words - read then write them

11. Practice reading our sight words:

- Reread - Shuffle the stack of words and ask your child to read the words five times in a row.
- Pairs - Write each word on two index cards and have fun!
- Word Searches - Find sight words around the home (on magazines, food boxes, signs etc.)
- Who has more? - Turn all the words face down. If you can read the word that you turn over you keep the card.
- Sentence building - As your child begins to learn more sight words, ask him/her to use as many words in a sentence as possible.

12.

Simple dictation exercises -

- Ask your child to write the sound c/w/m etc.
- Ask your child to write simple CVC words such as bag, cup etc. Slowly say the word enunciating each sound clearly.

## NUMERACY CHOICE BOARD

1.

Make a jigsaw/puzzle

2.

Play a game of Snakes and Ladders or cards (pairs/snap)

3.

Sort your toys by size/ by colour

4.

Practice adding numbers up to 5

- 2 stones and 2 stones make 4
- 1 car and 2 cars make 3

5.

Make sets of objects:

- Which set has more/less?
- How many more does one set have over another?
- How can we make both sets equal?

6.

Practice number formation (1-5)

- Rainbow writing
- Use a pencil
- Use playdoh
- Use a marker and whiteboard

7.

Count up to 20 (clapping for each number)

Count backwards from 20 to 0 (clicking your fingers for each number)

8.

Count and move:

- 10 jumping jacks
- 5 star jumps
- 6 strides etc.

9.

Perform our number songs and rhymes:

- 5 Little Monkeys
- 5 Little Speckled Frogs
- One, Two Buckle my Shoe
- 10 Fat Sausages
- 5 Little Ducks
- 5 Fat Peas etc.

There are lots of songs and rhymes on Youtube!

10.

**Make a tower game:**

- Roll a dice. Take that number of lego pieces.
- Each player has three goes.
- Who has the tallest tower? They are the winner!

11.

**Get measuring:**

- Use cubes/links/lego pieces to measure objects in your home.
- Sort the objects by size - long to short/ tall to short/ wide to narrow
- Find something longer than your arm/shorter than your leg etc.

12.

**Make patterns -**

- Use lego pieces/counters/cubes
- Use coloured crayons

## SCIENCE, HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY CHOICE BOARD

1.

Investigate: does it float/sink?

- Use your toys
- Use fruit

2.

Listen to a story for example, The Three Little Pigs.

- Draw what happened at each stage of the story
- Sequence the pictures in order
- Use words like first, next, then, finally

3.

Draw your favourite animal and label it

4.

Play with water:

- How many cups does it take to fill the pot?
- Which one holds more/less?

5.

Plant some seeds and take care of your plant. (Cress seeds are great as they grow very quickly!)

6.

Go on a spring walk - identify the signs of a new season!

- Write/draw about what you have seen

7.

Make a map of your bedroom

8.

Decorate/paint a stone

9.

Design and draw a fort then build it using Lego/blocks/bricks etc.

10.

Help to make lunch or dinner

11.

Talk about your family. Draw a picture of your family and write their names

12.

Bake something delicious