**Greenmount National School**

**Junior Language Class – Week beginning Tuesday May 5th**

Hi everyone,

I was so delighted to chat to you on Google Classroom this week and hear about all the wonderful things you want to be when you grow up. Wasn’t Cliona’s photo funny?

My news this week is that I learned how to make brownies. They were delicious. Maybe I should become a baker when I grow up instead of a scuba diver?

Alice and Theo say woof to you all. Theo is getting big. His legs are getting longer and he can run faster now after Alice. He loves all types of food except for mushrooms. Today, I had a burger for my dinner and Theo licked all the ketchup off my plate when I wasn’t looking! I’m going to have to keep a closer eye on him. ☺



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|  | **Week May 5th – 8th** |
|  | **Scroll down for an explanation of how to do each activity.** |
| **Tuesday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: Occupations – The Garda (See Activity Explanations below)  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘l’ (leg).  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** ad family – dad, had, sad  **Read Progressive Phonics:** Book 1: Story: Had (p.40)  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity.**  **Letter Formation:** The letter l . Start way up high, straight down, under the bridge.  **Maths:**  Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Revision 1 – 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Wednesday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: Occupations – The Doctor  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘e’ (egg)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** ad family – dad, had, sad, mad  **Read Progressive Phonics:** Book 1: Story: Dad’s Shoes (p.44) and Story: So Sad (p. 46)  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity**  **Letter Formation:** the letter ‘t’. Letter rhyme: Start at the top, straight down, under the bridge, put on his arms.  **Maths:**  Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Revision 1 – 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Thursday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme:Occupations – The Teacher  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘g’ (goat)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** ad family – dad, had, sad, mad, lad  **Read the book:** Getting Dressed (See Collins Big Cat Readers instructions below) and do the activity at the end.  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity**  **Letter Formation:** The letter ‘u’. Letter rhyme: Start at top, straight down, under the bridge, up, down and don’t forget the tail.  **Maths:**  Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Revision 1 – 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Friday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: Occupations – The Soccer Player  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘r’ (rat)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** ad family – dad, had, sad, mad, lad, pad  **Read the book:** Getting Dressed (See Collins Big Cat Readers instructions below) and do the activity at the end.  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity.**  **Letter Formation:** Revisethe letter ‘y’.Letter rhyme: Start at the top, straight down, under the bridge, up, down and swing.  **Maths:**  Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Revision 1 – 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
|  | **Activity Explanations** |
|  | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: We’re going to stay with the theme of Occupations again this week.  Some of the kids expressed an interest in certain occupations in particular so we’re going to take a closer look at those.  Tuesday: The Garda.  Wednesday: The Doctor.  Thursday: The Teacher.  Friday: The Soccer Player.  If you are accessing this on Google Classroom: Look in the Occupations file in Classwork.  If you are accessing this on the website: Look in the Extension Activities May 6th blogpost.  You’ll find activities and games to help you explore each occupation. No need to print these out. You can discuss them while looking at the screen or make your own display signs for roleplay.  Remember to use the who, what, where questions to explore the theme of occupations: Who is this? What do they do? What tools do they use? Where do they work?  **Phonics:**  You need to write out the individual letters on pieces of paper for this activity.  Say the sound, trace the sound, write the sound and do the action.  Watch the video of the letter on <https://www.starfall.com/h/abcs/>  Draw and colour pictures of objects the begin with the letter or cut out pictures of objects that start with the letter.  Find the letter in a book/magazine/newspaper.  Sing the jolly phonics song for the letter. These are available on youtube.  Think of words that begin/end with the letter.  **Sounds like Phonics:**  Go to the cjfallon website. Click on Quick Links. Click on Sounds like Phonics. This will bring you to interactive games to accompany each letter. This is the book we use in school.  **Blending:**  Use the same letters that you have used for the phonics activities.  Mix up all the letters. Ask your child to make the word. Help them by sounding out the word slowly. Then trace the letters with their finger. Then the child writes the word by copying from the letters. Continue with the other words. Don’t be too worried about letter formation here. The aim is that they are reading and writing simple words.  **Progressive Phonics Books:** You will find these in a separate blog post in the Language Class blog under Progressive Phonics.  **Collins Big Cat Readers:**  <https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/portal.aspx>  Go to Collins Connect and click on the Teacher portal and enter:  Username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk  Password: Parents20!  and click Login.  Click on Collins Big Cat. Use the filter at the side to choose Pink Band A books. You will find the book Cars by Monica Hughes in there.  **Fine Motor Skills Activities**  Always do a fine motor skills activity first. Here is a great webpage with a lots of ideas for fine motor activities: <http://www.infanteducation.ie/infanted-blog/building-the-muscles-for-better-handwriting>  **Letter Formation**  We use little rhymes to remember how to write the letters. You and the child can say this as they write the letter.  Start by drawing the letter in the air, with your finger on the table, on someone’s back, then move onto to tracing a few lines of letters written by you before they should write the letter on their own. Help your child to say the rhyme as they form the letter. Remember, it’s all about success. Children will get upset or give up if they feel they are unable to do it. If they need to trace letters and not move on to writing the letters on their own, that is fine. They are still learning how to write when they are tracing.  When doing writing activities, make it interesting by using different writing implements or writing surfaces. You could use a pencil, biro, marker, crayon, colouring pencil, chalk, paintbrush, q-tip and paint, finger paint on white paper, coloured paper, cardboard, tinfoil, cling film, wrapping paper, in sand, in suds, in rice, the ground outside…  We do a lot of rainbow writing in school. This is where you write the letter over and over using as many overlapping colours as you can.  **Maths:**  **Extending backwards number word sequences.**  Essentially this is the same activity as last week but this time we are using backwards number word sequences and trying to extend these. Children find counting backwards much harder than counting forwards. Check to see from which number your child can comfortably count back from first. Is it: 3, 2, 1. Or 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Maybe they can count down from ten confidently. Then try to extend it by one or two numbers this week. Continue to do the active counting while counting backwards i.e. count while clapping (one clap for each number), count while marching, jumping, doing wall press offs, touching your head and then your tummy.  **Number Revision 1 – 5.**  I have put up eight number revision activities. You should be able to complete these on the computer and not have to print them out.  If you are accessing this on Google Classroom: Look in the Number Revision 1 - 5 file in Classwork.  If you are accessing this on the website: Look in the Extension Activities May 5th blogpost. |
|  | **Other Subjects** |
|  | **Story Time**  Please read a book with your child every day, if you can.  If you are running out of physical books at home take a look at these websites:  getepic.com, storylineonline.net, vooks.com  **Irish:**  Abair Liom. Lesson 3: An Bosca Lóin  Folens Online are providing free access to their Irish programme Abair Liom.   1. Go to [folensonline.ie](https://www.folensonline.ie/registration/?r=t) and click register 2. Select Teacher 3. Fill in a username, email and password 4. For Roll Number use the Code: Prim20. 5. An activation email will then be sent to your account. Follow the link. 6. Enter your email address and password again. When it asks you to personalise your account tick teacher, all subjects and Junior Infants. 7. Select Abair liom A and resources. 8. Click on Lesson (grey tab at the top) and pick a lesson. Lovely short videos and games.   **S.E.S.E. (Social, Environmental and Scientific Education):**  Theme: Occupations  We’re continuing with the theme of occupations – see the English Oral Language section for activities.  **S.P.H.E. (Social Personal and Health Education):**  Here is a 21 days of mindfulness bootcamp for kids. Feel free to complete it at your leisure. The videos are all about 2 or 3 minutes long and very relaxing. It’s something the whole family can enjoy.  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB16XYD2huo&list=PLOL43Ch9yQXx70BqPbnNsW-\_hnuvMQMR8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB16XYD2huo&list=PLOL43Ch9yQXx70BqPbnNsW-_hnuvMQMR8)  **P.E.:**  10at10  Joe Wicks Body Coach  Cosmic Kids Yoga  Gonoodle.com  The Learning Station on Youtube  **Art:**  Art Competition at [www.drawourheroes.ie](http://www.drawourheroes.ie) Good luck!  Here is the blurb from their webpage:  We are calling on all young people up to and including 18 years of age to draw a picture of their real life hero in this difficult time of the Corona Virus.  Your hero could be a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, ambulance service, gardai, fire service, army, an post, shop assistant, van driver, Leo Varadkar, Simon Harris, Dr. Tony Holohan, your granny cocooning – in fact anyone who is playing their part to keep us all safe.  You can use paints or draw with pencils or use anything you like once it’s on an A4 page. Feel free to give your own unique ‘Title’ to your entry.  There are 4 age categories and prizes range from €50 to €500. The artists and their heroes in the winning portraits will also be honoured at a special presentation in August 2020 (which will be confirmed at a later date)  Entries must be submitted by the 30th June 2020 and the artwork will be displayed online at the end of the competition.  **Music:**  <https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/portal.aspx>  Go to Collins Connect and click on the Teacher portal and enter:  Username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk  Password: Parents20!  and click Login.  You’ll find fabulous music lessons in the Music Express area.  **Recommended Websites:**  Readingeggs.com are doing a free month for parents when you sign up. It’s a fantastic website for English and Maths. I can highly recommend this website. It might come in handy also if you need a few minutes to yourself as the kids should be able to play it themselves.  Topmarks.co.uk is another one that has lots of educational games on it. |