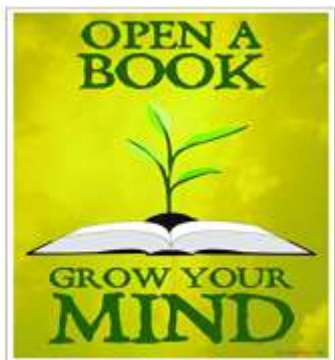


May 18th - 22nd 2020

Greetings from Ms Dermody

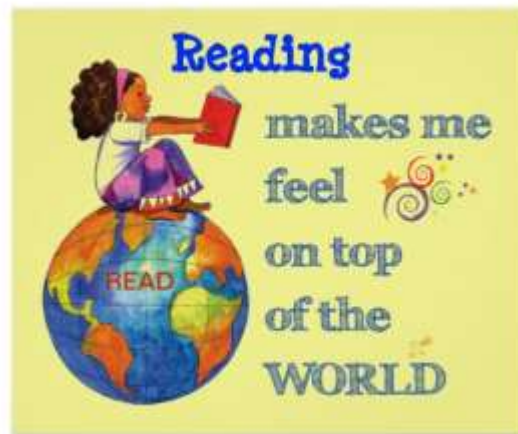


May 18th 2020



Dear girls and parents,

I hope you are all well and that you had a good week. A big thanks to both you yourselves girls and to your mummies for the efforts you are putting in to your work and getting it to me. I am really happy to see the great work you are doing at home. I am looking forward to seeing lots more. I am missing you all so much girls and it will be just great when we get back to school. As I say every week, *please do not worry if you can't do all the work*, you could do some of it. You will find some of my work on the school website with your class teacher's work *or* I will send some of it to parents to their email addresses. Either way, I have something nice for everyone who wants it! I would love to hear from all of the girls in all my maths and literacy groups.



Literacy



I hope you had a good week and that you managed to do a bit of reading. Did you get a chance to look at [Storyline Online?](#) As I said last week it has a huge range of stories, some read by familiar famous faces, and it's lovely. I also mentioned another place you can find lots of books to read, [Collins Connect](#): where you click on the Teacher portal and enter:

Username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk

Password: Parents20! and click Login.

Another nice resource for reading is SPELD SA Phonic Books. These are free to use and are based on the order of sounds introduced in the Jolly Phonics early literacy program.

Each book comes with suggestions on how parents can get the most out of the book and there is one to suit a variety of ages and abilities. Please use these readers at your discretion accounting for your child's abilities, age and needs. After all, you know your child best.

There are also worksheets to complement the books. So why not try out some of these books this week?



Maths at home

We use maths every day without even thinking about it: every time we shop; whenever we think about the time; when we set a table for the family; when we cook or bake.... The list is endless. Maths is part of everyday life.

With this in mind, the easiest thing you can do to support your child's mathematical development is look for opportunities to highlight the maths of every day. Think about:

- counting or sorting things (anything, socks, cutlery....);
- naming shapes;
- talking about days of the week and time;
- counting simple amounts of money; or comparing lengths, weights and capacity (how much a container can hold) of objects;
- doing a simple survey, e.g. favourite animal, of everyone in the family, and showing the results on a picture chart (some of us did that last week)
- real-world problems involving adding/subtracting/dividing/multiplying money;
- measuring and comparing time and distance of walks, cycles or drives (less than 5km at the moment) measuring exact dimensions and area of every room in the home, or measuring and comparing the height of different family members;
- following exact recipes for baking or cooking using grammes and millilitres;

- discussions of time during the day, e.g. "How many minutes until 8 p.m?";
- making a graph or chart of the daily weather and temperature, or their own screen time/activity time;

MATHS WEEK IRELAND

In response to the Covid-19 situation, maths week Ireland are making resources available for pupils that are at home during the school closures. They should also be of interest to adults. These recreational maths activities are a great way to keep the brain sharp, learn and have fun. There are daily maths activities for all ages.

[Topmarks.co.uk](https://www.topmarks.co.uk) also has some great, fun games, tips and maths ideas.

Class Level: 1st-5th

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Hit the Button is an interactive maths game with quick fire questions on number, bonds, times tables, doubling and halving, multiples, division facts and square numbers. Games are against the clock and develop number fact recall.

Top Marks - Daily 10

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Class Level: Junior Infants-5th Class

Daily 10 is a primary maths resource which covers addition, subtraction, ordering, partitioning, place value, rounding, multiplication, division, doubles, halves and fractions. The aim is to deliver 10 maths questions, many which can be used for mental maths practice.

Sets of questions can be timed or untimed and they are graded in levels of difficulty, the resource is suitable for children from 5 to 11 years of age.

Keep an eye on the SEN part of the website each week where Mrs Moore provides some very helpful website links and **Maths Recovery**



Ideas

Another helpful source for maths is <https://www.multiplication.com> this is useful for anyone who wants to practice their Multiplication

Did any of you have a chance to try the following website last week? www.splashlearn.com It has lots of maths activities and games for all the family. To get access all you need is your parents to enter their email and off you go!

Did you get a chance to do any fun activities at home this week? Here are some ideas:



Play board games (if you have them, scrabble, snakes and ladders etc)

Board games are a fun and easy way to keep everyone distracted.

Make Playdough:



Mix a cup of flour, half a cup of salt and half a cup of water in a bowl. If the mixture becomes too dry, add a little more water. If the mixture is a little too sticky, add some flour. If you'd like a splash of colour, separate the dough into smaller balls. Make a small hole in the centre (not all the way through, just far enough to add the colour) using a few drops of food colouring or washable paint and knead the dough until the colour is mixed all the way through. This can be kept in the fridge in an air-tight bag for up to four weeks.

Movie night

Movie nights are fun and something for all the family to look forward to. You can even make some popcorn. How about the Big, Big Movie on RTE 1 on Saturday evenings?

Play in the back garden

Games like hopscotch, hurling, basketball, soccer or tennis can provide great fun and exercise.

Connect with other people

Write a list of the people to make contact with every day/every few days. Do you know anyone who lives alone and might be lonely?

Keep in contact with relatives by phoning, face timing or writing a letter (get permission from mum or dad first).

Ask them how they are

Share what you have been learning

Write them letters, or a poem

Draw them pictures

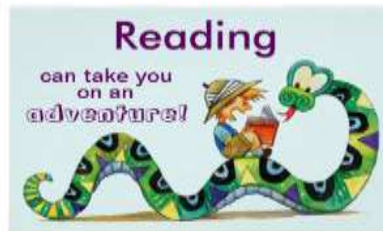
Send them photos

This is a good opportunity for you to practice your handwriting or your keyboard skills.



Play cards

Cards are a cheap and easy way to have fun. There are huge range of different games to cater for any number - snap, five lives and lots more.



Read a book

Books are a great way for young people to escape, see all the links provided on this and other websites.

Get cooking

Try making homemade pizzas! You can make the base from scratch or use a wrap as the base.



Get baking

keep it simple. Rice crispy buns are always a good option.



Arts and crafts

Try painting, drawing or colouring.

Homemade jigsaws

First make a picture or a painting, then cut it into jigsaw pieces.

Disco Time

Play some music and get dancing.

Get active

Go out and get active, while keeping safe by keeping our distance from others. Going for walks and cycles can keep us and our families feeling good.

Make a story book

Drawing pictures is a great way to keep entertained. Can you make your very own story book?



Life skills

Learning doesn't always have to be sitting at a table with books and a pen. What are Life Skills?

Do you know how to sort laundry? Chop an onion? Recycle cardboard boxes?

Life skills are skills we need during our everyday lives. Here are some of the best life skills you can learn while school is closed.

Cleaning Up After yourselves

Put away your toys after you've finished playing

Setting the Table

Preparing and Sorting Laundry: know to separate light and dark colors? What about emptying out pockets before putting something in the washing machine? Do you know that one red sock will turn the whole load pink?



Knowing Emergency Contact Information: your home and/or mobile phone numbers, as well as how to dial 999. Also see if you can memorize your street address, town, and county

Making the Bed



This skill is often overlooked during the school-year rush to get out the door in the morning, but you have plenty of time on your hands now to learn how to make your bed properly.

Cooking Skills



Stirring, mixing, shaking, whisking. All hugely popular with kids. Also popular? Cracking eggs, using the blender (with supervision), and making sandwiches.

You can learn to scramble eggs, boil water for pasta, and make pancakes. But you can also practice fractions by setting out measuring cups and trying to double, triple, or even quadruple an easy recipe.



Gardening

Are you lucky enough to have a garden? How much sunlight do tomato plants need to grow? What's different about the soil in the front yard versus the back? And what are the creepy crawlies eating all the flowers? Gardening is one of the single best ways to blend life skills with science.

Loading the Dishwasher

Believe it or not, it's tricky enough to be able to load a dishwasher so everything fits and actually gets cleaned.





“There is always, always something to be thankful for.”

This week I would like to focus on gratitude. Now that we are at home, we have time to think about all we have to be thankful for.

What are you grateful for today?

What made you feel happy today?

What was the best part of your day today?

- What made you laugh today?
- What did you have fun playing with today?
- What yummy food did you eat today?
- What was something beautiful you saw today?
- Who did something kind for you today?
- Who made you feel loved today?
- What is your favourite toy?
- What activity are you glad you got to do today?

Maybe you could start a **gratitude journal** today. Here you would write all the things you have to be grateful for every day, like a diary. Below I have an example of what a Gratitude Journal might look like. You could make it as fancy as you choose. An old copy could be turned into a lovely gratitude journal.



Idea for gratitude journal

Today I am going to finish on a fun exercise activity. For this activity each letter has a set of exercises to go with it. So for S you have to touch your toes 20 times. This activity asks you to spell your name using these exercises. You could get the whole family involved or spell any word you like. Enjoy spelling and getting fit!

what's fit activity for kids your name!

SPELL OUT YOUR FULL NAME AND COMPLETE THE ACTIVITY LISTED FOR EACH LETTER. FOR A GREATER CHALLENGE INCLUDE YOUR MIDDLE NAME & DO EACH ONE TWICE! FOR VARIETY YOU CAN USE A FAVORITE CHARACTER'S NAME OR A FAMILY MEMBER'S NAME.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A jump up & down 10 times | N pick up a ball without using your hands |
| B spin around in a circle 5 times | O walk backwards 50 steps and skip back |
| C hop on one foot 5 times | P walk sideways 20 steps and hop back |
| D run to the nearest door and run back | Q crawl like a crab for a count of 10 |
| E walk like a bear for a count of 5 | R walk like a bear for a count of 5 |
| F do 3 cartwheels | S bend down and touch your toes 20 times |
| G do 10 jumping jacks | T pretend to pedal a bike with your hands for a count of 17 |
| H hop like a frog 8 times | U roll a ball using only your head |
| I balance on your left foot for a count of 10 | V flap your arms like a bird 25 times |
| J balance on your right foot for a count of 10 | W pretend to ride a horse for a count of 15 |
| K march like a toy soldier for a count of 12 | X try and touch the clouds for a count of 15 |
| L pretend to jump rope for a count of 20 | Y walk on your knees for a count of 10 |
| M do 3 somersaults | Z do 10 push-ups |

Until next week, wishing you all health and happiness, from Ms Dermody