The Hedge School



Junior Infants Course Manual

Day-by-Day Lesson Plans & Instructional Tips

Authentically Irish, Faithfully Catholic

Dia is Muire agus Pádraig duit!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SELECTING *The Hedge School* as your Junior Infants curriculum. We are very excited to have you with us and we are looking forward to working with you and your family this year and beyond! As you may already know, we are an Irish Catholic curriculum, and we are dedicated to using as many Good & "Living" Books as possible. This means that we'll use very few workbooks—and will instead focus on excellent selections from some of the greatest literature of Western Civilization and from our own Irish heritage. We've picked only the *best of the best* for your family to enjoy together! Here is an overview of what you can look forward to!

In our **RELIGION** course, we'll study the history of our creation and God's loving care for the Israelites, culminating in the greatest event in human history—our Redemption. We'll also study the lives of some of the most popular Saints and enjoy learning more about our Faith.

In our study of **GAEILGE**, we'll learn some basic vocabulary and phrases and enjoy listening to a collection of songs and rhymes in Irish. We will use the *Caint is Comhrá* series to teach your child the vocabulary and phrases. Also, we'll enjoy the lovely rhymes and songs in *Bróga Nua 2*, which will help your child to hear the spoken Irish language and begin to use some Irish phrases himself!

In the **LITERATURE** course this year, we'll be reading several Good Books specifically written for the youngest children. Your child will work on listening and comprehension skills as we introduce him to some of the best literature of our culture.

We'll enjoy hearing about the exploits of Peter Rabbit, Benjamin and the Flopsy Bunnies, and then the many adventures of Pooh Bear and Christopher Robin in the Hundred Acre Wood. Next, we'll read some of the fairy and folk tales from the Western Tradition and we'll complete the year with a simple chapter book. All throughout the year, we'll explore the richness of the English language with our study of the poetry of Robert Louis Stevenson and A.A. Milne.

In the **HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY** curriculum, we'll explore some of our most well-known myths and legends, then enjoy a colourful and fun introduction to our beautiful Island. Finally, we will read a selection of Saints' lives who lived and breathed here before us.

Term Introductions

Religion

Books/resources required:

The Bible Story
Author: Johnson, Hannan and Dominica **ISBN**: 9780899424354

Once Upon a Time Saints
Author: Ethel Pochocki **ISBN**: 9781883937157

This year, we will be reading stories from the Old Testament (in Terms 1 and 2) and the New Testament (in Terms 3 and 4). All the stories are from the popular and beautiful *The Bible Story* reader.

We will also study the lives of selected Saints in *Once Upon a Time Saints*. This selection is great for young children as the stories are short, engaging and easy to read.

Furthermore, we encourage all families to utilize a developmentally appropriate missal for their child to further aid their understanding of and participation in the Holy Mass. For the Extraordinary Form, we recommend *My See and Pray Missal*. For the Ordinary Form, we recommend either *My Picture Missal* or *My First Missal*.

Extraordinary Form (Latin Mass):
My See and Pray Missal; Publisher: TAN Books;
ISBN: 9780895556011; Less than €5

Ordinary Form (English or Irish Mass):
My Picture Missal; Publisher: Catholic Book Publishing Corporation;
ISBN: 9780899422756; Less than €5

OR *My First Missal*; Publisher: Catholic Classics for Children;
ISBN: 9780882711812; Less than €5

We would also highly recommend the *Catholic Children's Treasure Box* series of 20 books, written by the Maryknoll Sisters in the 1950s and re-published by TAN Books. Many are available on Amazon.co.uk. However, of the ones available, many are either for sale only in e-book format, or as a printed edition from a third-party seller. *If* you can find them at a reasonable cost to yourself, we do love them for this age and Senior Infants.

Irish Translation Guide

Here are the English translations for the *Caint is Comhrá A* textbook.

Aonad 1: Mo Scoil

Pg. 1

A. Who is that? (hé is used for a male, hí is used for a female)
That is Éabha/Donnacha/the teacher.

What is this?
This is school, a school bag, a classroom, a white board, a marker, red.

B. Who are you?
I am Éabha/ Donnacha.

Pg. 2

Éabha/She is at school. I am at school.
Éabha/She is not at school. I am not at school.

Pg. 3

What does Donnacha have?
Donnacha has a bag. Donnacha has a folder.

What does Éabha have?
Éabha has a pencil. Éabha has a book.

Pg. 4

Éabha is at school.
Donnacha is at school.
The teacher is at school.
Tomás Teanga is not at school.

Pg. 5

School
I am at school,
Oh, I am at school,
Hey-ho my grandad,
I am at school.

I have a teacher,
I have a teacher,
Hey-ho my grandad,
I have a teacher.

I have a school bag,
I have a school bag,
Hey-ho my grandad,
I have a school bag.

I have a marker,
I have a marker,
Hey-ho my grandad,
I have a marker.

Term One

Junior Infants

	Day 1	Day 2
RELIGION		
The Bible Story	*The Creation* (pg. 1)	
Once Upon a Time Saints		
GAEILGE		
Caint is Comhrá A	Teach your child Foclóir Nua (pg. 1). You can use *Foclóir Nua/ Póstaer* (online) to help. Then have him learn the Frása na Coicíse (pg. 1) and listen to *Amhrán* (online) a few times and sing along.	Revise yesterday's lesson, then listen to *Scéal* (online, under *Póstaer*) and complete *Ceisteanna* (online). Optional: play the games under *Foclóir Nua*.
Bróga Nua 2	Listen to *Oisín agus Bó* (CD 1: No. 3 and 4; pg. 8) a few times and sing along	Read the translation for *Oisín agus Bó* and sing along a few more times
LITERATURE		
A Child's Garden of Verses	*A Bed in Summer*	*A Thought* *At the Seaside*
Complete Tales of Beatrix Potter	*The Tale of Peter Rabbit*	*The Tale of Benjamin Bunny*
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY		
Irish Legends for Children		*The Children of Lir* (pg. 4)
Irelandopedia Activity Book		Show your child the names and locations of the *32 Counties*. Colour the page.
MATHS		
Figure it Out Junior Infants	Have your child complete pg. 1 and 2	Have your child complete pg. 3
FINE ARTS		
Enjoying Art with Children	Read How to Use this Book	
NOTES		

This space is for your own notes, reflections, ideas, or whatever you need to record!

Junior Infants

Term 1
Week 1

	Day 3	Day 4
RELIGION		
The Bible Story		
Once Upon a Time Saints		*Edward the Confessor* (pg. 56)
GAEILGE		
Caint is Comhrá A	Revise *Scéal* and *Ceisteanna*. Your child can follow along on pg. 4 of the text. Then listen to *Comhrá* (all under *Póstaer*). Teach your child *Foghraíocht* (1 of 2). Revise all phrases.	Listen to *Caint is Comhrá* and complete *Ceisteanna*. Then listen to *Amhrán* again and have your child complete pg. 5, drawing a picture of where he studies. Optional: play games under *Foclóir Nua*.
Bróga Nua 2	Do the adaptations for *Oisín agus Bó* and teach your child the vocabulary	Revise the additional vocabulary and sing *Oisín agus Bó* a few more times
LITERATURE		
A Child's Garden of Verses	*Young Night Thought*	Re-read any poem from this week
An Illustrated Treasury of Grimm's Fairy Tales		1. *The Princess and the Frog* (pg. 7) (Also called *The Frog Prince* in other editions)
SCIENCE		
Great Big Book of Irish Wildlife		*Autumn* (pg. 48-49)
Exploring Nature: Activity Book for Kids		Do *Activity 1* (pg. 2-3). Just include whatever items you feel are important!
HANDWRITING		
Go With the Flow A	Teach your child proper handwriting posture today. Then have your child complete pg. 4.	Have your child complete pg. 5
FINE ARTS		
Peter and the Wolf (*Music*)	Read about *Peter and the Wolf* from the *Term Introduction* to your child	
NOTES		

Junior Infants

	Day 1	Day 2
RELIGION		
The Bible Story	*Adam and Eve in the Garden of Paradise* (pg. 3)	*Adam and Eve Sin and are Punished* (pg. 4)
Once Upon a Time Saints		
GAEILGE		
Caint is Comhrá A	Revise Frása na Coicíse (pg. 1) and *Scéal*. Listen to *Rann* a few times and sing along. Optional: play *Cluiche*.	Revise *Caint is Comhrá* and *Ceisteanna*. Then have your child complete pg. 2 in the textbook.
Bróga Nua 2	Listen to *Am Éirí* (CD 1: No. 6; pg. 12) a few times and sing along	Read the translation for *Am Éirí* and sing along a few more times
LITERATURE		
A Child's Garden of Verses	*Whole Duty of Children* *Rain*	*Pirate Story*
Complete Tales of Beatrix Potter	Begin reading *The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle*	Finish reading *The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle*
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY		
Irish Legends for Children		*Deirdre of the Sorrows* (pg. 14)
Irelandopedia Activity Book		Tell your child the bird names on *In the Air* and have them colour the page
MATHS		
Figure it Out Junior Infants	Have your child complete pg. 4 and 5	Have your child complete pg. 6
FINE ARTS		
Enjoying Art with Children	Hans Holbein the Younger: *Edward VI as a Child* (pg. 8)	
NOTES		

Junior Infants

Term 1
Week 2

	Day 3	Day 4
RELIGION		
The Bible Story	*Cain Kills His Brother Abel* (pg. 8)	
Once Upon a Time Saints		
GAEILGE		
Caint is Comhrá A	Revise *Caint is Comhrá* and *Ceisteanna*. Teach your child *Foghraíocht* (2 of 2). Then have him revise pg. 1 and complete pg. 6 in the text. Practise saying the phrases clearly and correctly.	Listen to *Caint is Comhrá* one last time, then listen to *Rann* again and have your child complete pg. 3 in the text. (Pg. 115 has the stickers.) Optional: play *Cluiche*.
Bróga Nua 2	Listen to *Is Maith Liom...* (CD 1: No. 7; pg. 12) a few times and sing along	Read the translation for *Is Maith Liom...* and sing along some more
LITERATURE		
A Child's Garden of Verses	*Foreign Lands*	Memorise a poem from this or last week
An Illustrated Treasury of Grimm's Fairy Tales		2. *The Wolf and the Seven Little Goats* (pg. 13); (Also called *The Wolf and the Seven Little Kids* in other editions)
SCIENCE		
Great Big Book of Irish Wildlife		*Autumn in the Garden* (pg. 50-51)
Exploring Nature: Activity Book for Kids		Do *Activity 11* (pg. 24-25). We'll revisit your tree in Winter, Spring and Summer!
HANDWRITING		
Go With the Flow A	Have your child complete pg. 6	Have your child complete pg. 7
FINE ARTS		
Peter and the Wolf (*Music*)	Watch the 1946 Disney short film *Peter and the Wolf* (available online)	
NOTES		

Science: Draw a picture of your tree as it looks today, and keep this handy (ideally in your notebook) for the next three Terms--so you can compare how it looks throughout the seasons.