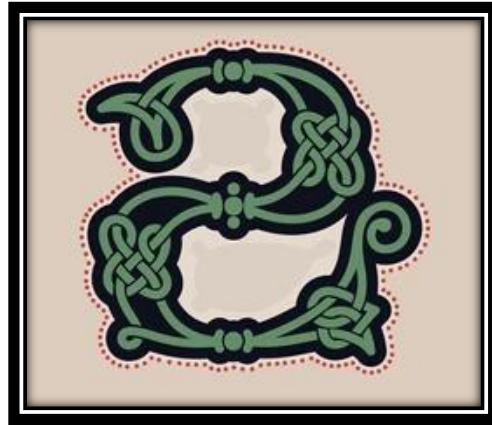


The Hedge School



Second Class

Core Learning: Course Manual

Religion, Gaeilge, Reading & Phonics,
Handwriting and Mathematics

Day-by-Day Lesson Plans & Instructional Tips

Authentically Irish, Faithfully Catholic

Dia is Muire agus Ládraig duit!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SELECTING *The Hedge School* for your curriculum provider for Second Class. 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 a Great Books Curriculum. This means that we'll use few workbooks (and only when they're strictly necessary!)—and we 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 student and your family to enjoy together!

In this Core Learning Course for Second Class, we cover the core, essential curriculum subjects for the child in Second Class. We also invite you to pick up one of our Social, Environmental and Scientific Plans (either Ancient History, Christendom, Early Modern, or Modern History) for a more-complete education.

Here's an overview of what we will study this year!

Religion: This is the most essential subject that we offer—Religion. This year, we will have your child read a beautiful basic religion text for Second Class children: *The Life of the Soul*. We will have your child read through each lesson and either narrate the lessons back to you, or answer a few revision questions in the text, as assigned. We know that your child will enjoy reading this text himself, and we are sure that the whole family will gain a better understanding of our holy Faith.

To complete your child's preparation for his First Confession and First Holy Communion, we will study and memorise the questions and answers in the St. Joseph First Communion Catechism. We believe that all children should have a thorough grounding in the Truths of our Faith, so accurately and simply described in the Catechism. The memorisation work done in Second Class will stay with your child for the rest of his life!

Detailed Subject Introductions

Religion

Books/ resources required:

The Life of the Soul

Edited by: Edward A. Fitzpatrick
Around €15

ISBN: 9781640510265
Used All Year

The New St. Joseph First Communion Catechism

Compiled from the: Baltimore Catechism
Around €5

ISBN: 9780899422404
Used All Year

This year, we will prepare your child for First Confession and their First Holy Communion! This is one of the most important days in your child's life, and we want to be sure he is adequately prepared and ready to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion.

To prepare your child, he will read the lessons from *The Life of My Soul*. Independent reading about God and the Saints from an early age is a wonderful way to make the Faith relevant and important to a child, as the child learns to have a relationship with Jesus, Holy Mary and all the Saints. Additionally, he will study and memorise the questions and answers from the *St. Joseph First Communion Catechism*.

The Life of My Soul is a lovely religion text for Catholic children. We learn about the Life of Jesus in a beautiful and wholesome way. There are many revision activities to help your child better understand and remember the lessons, and we also ask your child to *narrate* many lessons. We schedule some lessons to be narrated and some to do the revision questions.

Narration is one of the absolute best ways for children to *learn and retain* information. The ability to synthesise and retell the main points from a reading is a key skill that we want to work on and encourage. If you were with us before, you may be familiar with narration.

We've provided instructions below:

1. **To do a narration**, simply ask your child(ren) to tell you back all that he can remember from the assigned reading. (Some children can take this to an extreme and not know when to stop; if this seems to be your child, have him choose 2 or 3 main points to tell you about—no more.)
2. It is best to read the passage *only once* so your child(ren) really learns to focus and to be attentive when reading. We know that this can take practise, so don't worry if you find yourself reading the same text over again during the first couple of weeks. Attention to detail is a skill that few children naturally possess, and we will continue to work on this!
3. It will be hard with younger children in the house, but endeavour to keep distractions at a minimum, especially during readings which are to be narrated.
4. A good narration should be in your *child's own words*. Discourage them from simply memorizing portions of the text. Instead, we want to ensure they really grasp the

Day-by-Day Lesson Plans



Second Class

| | Day 1 | Day 2 |
|--|--|---|
| RELIGION | | |
| The Life of The Soul | Have your child read <i>A Letter to You</i> and 1. <i>The Body and Soul of Man</i> (pg. 5 and 7) and narrate back to you | |
| New St. Joseph First Communion Catechism | Review <i>The Sign of the Cross, Lord's Prayer, The Hail Mary</i> (pg. 3-4). Say these prayers before each day's lessons so your child knows them! | |
| GAEILGE | | |
| As go Brách Liom C | Help your child to complete pg. 3: <i>Dul Siar</i> | Help your child to complete pg. 4: <i>Dul Siar</i> |
| Bun go Barr 2 | Pg. 2-3: Teach your child the vocab.: <i>Féach ar leathanach 2 agus 3. Éist leis na focail. Cuir méar ar an bhfocal a chloiseann tú.</i> Then discuss the picture: 1. Cad é seo? Cad é sin? 2. Cé / Céard atá sa phictiúr? 3. Inis dom faoin seomra folctha. 4. Céard atá ar an urlár? Read the Poem & Pronunciation Note. | Teach your child additional vocabulary: tirim; fliuch (using a dictionary if needed). Then discuss the picture (pg. 2-3): 1. An bhfuil ... ag ...? 2. Cé atá fliuch? Cé atá tirim? Cé atá sásta? 3. Cá bhfuil an lacha, an madra, an cat? |
| READING & PHONICS | | |
| Reading-Literature: Second Reader | Have your child read <i>The Wind and the Sun</i> (pg. 1-2), noting any words he doesn't know | Have your child read <i>The Crow and the Pitcher</i> (pg. 3), noting any words he doesn't know |
| Just Phonics: Second Class | | Have your child complete <i>Revision: short a, e, i, o and u</i> (pg. 4) |
| HANDWRITING | | |
| Just Cursive (for 2nd Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a Do) | Revise proper handwriting posture with your child. Ensure he is holding himself and his pencil correctly! | |
| MATHEMATICS | | |
| Mathemagic 2 OR Mata Draíochta 2 | Have your child complete <i>Look Back</i> on pg. 1-2 | Have your child complete <i>Look Back</i> on pg. 3-4 |
| Table Toppers 2 | Have your child do <i>Day 1</i> of <i>Unit 1: Add 1</i> . Say the tables, learn the equations and do the exercises. (pg. 2) | Have your child do <i>Day 2</i> of <i>Unit 1: Add 1</i> (pg. 2). |
| NOTES | | |
| <i>Reading & Phonics:</i> Take some time this week to read the introductory material in <i>Grammar and Punctuation Activity Workbook: Year 1</i> . Read <i>About this Book</i> for yourself, on pg. iv-vii. | | |
| <i>Gaeilge:</i> Note that translations and suggested answer formats are available in the Answer Key, if it's been a while since you studied Irish (or never!). There is also a Poem and Pronunciation Note in the Key, to be read to your child. | | |
| For your child, if there is any word you are unsure of, have your child consult an Irish-English dictionary. This is an excellent skill to develop as they learn to use a dictionary. | | |

Second Class

Term 1

Week 1

| | Day 3 | Day 4 |
|---|---|---|
| RELIGION | | |
| The Life of The Soul | | |
| New St. Joseph First Communion Catechism | Have your child read <i>Lesson 1: God Made Us</i> (pg. 7) and memorise questions 1-2 | Have your child re-read <i>Lesson 1: God Made Us</i> (pg. 7) and memorise questions 3-4 |
| GAEILGE | | |
| Bréagáin | | We'll begin using this resource in Week 4 |
| Bun go Barr 2 | Continue to talk about the picture: 1. An bhfuil bríste, t-léine, tuáille, veist ar Chlóna, ar Neasa? 2. An bhfuil bríste, t-léine, tuáille, veist ort ar maidin? 3. An maith leat an seomra foltha, galúnach, sobal srl? Read the story in <i>Exercise A</i> (pg. 4) aloud, then have your child read it. | Have your child complete <i>Exercise B</i> (pg. 5): <i>Éist agus abair na focail. Cuir méar ar na focail: fuar, fliuch, fuar agus fliuch, Táim fuar agus fliuch, te, tirim, te agus tirim, Táim te agus tirim.</i> Practice forming sentences about hot/wet/dry/cold. Re-read the Poem |
| READING & PHONICS | | |
| Reading-Literature: Second Reader | Have your child read <i>The Fox and the Crow</i> (pg. 4), noting any words he doesn't know | Go over again the words your child did not know, then have him read <i>one</i> Fable aloud to someone else |
| Just Phonics: Second Class | Have your child complete <i>Revision: long a (cake)</i> (pg. 5) | Have your child complete <i>Revision: long e (eat)</i> (pg. 6) |
| HANDWRITING | | |
| Just Cursive (for 2nd Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a Do) | Have your child complete pg. 4 | |
| MATHEMATICS | | |
| Mathemagic 2 OR Mata Draíochta 2 | Have your child complete <i>Look Back</i> on pg. 5-6 | Have your child complete <i>Subtraction</i> on pg. 7 |
| Table Toppers 2 | Have your child do <i>Day 3</i> of <i>Unit 1: Add 1</i> (pg. 3). | Have your child do <i>Day 4</i> of <i>Unit 1: Add 1</i> (pg. 3). |
| NOTES | | |

Gaeilge: Begin to teach your child the following sentence constructions. We'll be using these a lot this year!

(i) Meas tú cá bhfuil? (I wonder where...)

(ii) Sílim go bhfuil (I think that...)

(iii) Is dóigh liom go bhfuil (I suppose that...)