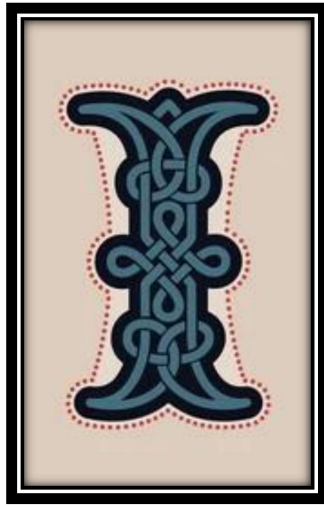


The Hedge School



First Class

Core Learning: Course Manual

Religion, Gaeilge, Reading, Handwriting Mathematics

Day-by-Day Lesson Plans & Instructional Tips

Authentically Irish, Faithfully Catholic

Detailed Subject Introductions

Religion

Books/ resources required:

The Life of My Savior

Author: A School Sister of Notre Dame
Around €20

ISBN: 9781640510227
Used in Terms 1-4

This year, your child will read the lessons from *The Life of My Savior* by himself. 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 he learns to have a relationship with Jesus and Holy Mary and all the Saints.

This book is a lovely first religion reader 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.

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 for Senior Infants, 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 few weeks. Attention to detail is a skill that few children naturally possess, and we will continue to work on this as your child advances. By the end of the First Term at least, make sure that you are only reading the passage *once*.
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 content by telling you the most important points of the story or lesson, in their own language and mode of expression.
5. Due to the way we fully immerse the family in any given historical time period, it should be rather easy for your child to make connections with other aspects of the curriculum. We encourage you to help your child make mental connections with other aspects of the curriculum when applicable, or with information he has acquired outside of his studies (like at Mass, from other family members, from personal reading, etc.).

6. Narrations are primarily oral, but if your child is really struggling with this do feel free to use drawing, acting, building, modelling, or any other form of expression—especially when your child is the first few primary years. We will continue to work on oral narrations throughout the early years and then move to formal written narrations, or essays, in the later primary years and throughout secondary school. The most important thing for now is that your child develops a good understanding of the material to be narrated!
7. **If you have more than one child to narrate:** You may ask each child to narrate individually (as described above).
...or you may have one child narrate first, *on a rotating basis*, and then have the other child(ren) add one or two bits of information that they felt was important or that they felt the first child left out.
...or you may have one child narrate verbally, one child produce a drawing for a narration and another child produce a poem or play for their narration, again on a rotating basis.

Finally, 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 *Latin Mass Children's Missal*. For the Ordinary Form, we recommend the *St. Joseph Children's Missal*.

Extraordinary Form (Latin Mass):

Latin Mass Children's Missal; Publisher: Neumann Press;
ISBN: 9781930873179; About €20, available online

Ordinary Form (English or Irish Mass):

St. Joseph Children's Missal; Publisher: Catholic Book Publishing;
ISBN: 9780899428062 (black); About €10, available online
ISBN: 9780899428055 (white)

Note: You'll find readings about the Saints in the History Plan that you've selected for the year (Ancient History, Christendom, Early Modern, or Modern).



First Class

	Day 1	Day 2
RELIGION		
The Life of My Savior	Have your child read <i>Part I: God the Creator</i> and <i>1. God Made Heaven</i> (pg. 11)	
Notes/ Other ideas	Look over and practise/ teach your child the words from the <i>Word List</i> on page 193 before having him read each Lessons!	
GAEILGE		
Bua na Cainte Readers: <i>Cúig Rón</i> Scéal 1	Read or Listen to the story a few times. (You can listen to the recording by scanning the QR code on the back.)	Read or Listen to the story a few times. (You can listen to the recording by scanning the QR code on the back.)
Bun go Barr 1	Pg. 2-3: Teach your child the new vocabulary, until he knows them, then try to use the vocabulary everyday! Discuss the picture: <i>Céard a fheiceann tú sa phictiúr?</i>	Teach your child some additional vocabulary: bróga reatha (runners); clogad (helmet); feadóg (whistle); téad scipeála (skipping rope). Then read the Poem from the Answer Key & practise the Pronunciation Note.
READING & PHONICS		
Reading-Literature: First Reader	Have your child read pg. 1-3: <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> (through the second pig), noting words he doesn't know	Have your child read pg. 4-6: <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> (through 5:00), noting any words he doesn't know
Just Phonics: First Class		Have your child complete <i>Revision: short vowel sounds a, e, i, o and u</i> (pg. 4 and pg. 5)
HANDWRITING		
Just Cursive (for 1st Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a hAon)	Spend a while revising handwriting posture with your child. Ensure he is holding himself and his pencil correctly!	
MATHEMATICS		
Mathemagic 1 OR Mata Draíochta 1	Have your child complete the <i>Look back</i> on pg. 1	Have your child complete the <i>Look back</i> on pg. 2-3
Table Toppers 1	Have your child do <i>Day 1 of Unit 1: Add 1</i> . Say the tables, learn the equations and do the exercises (pg. 2).	Have your child do <i>Day 2 of Unit 1: Add 1</i> (pg. 2).
NOTES		
<p><i>Reading & Phonics:</i> Take some time this week to read the <i>Preface</i> for yourself. Also, remember that the page numbers cited are from the 2007 reprint edition published by Yesterday's Classics. Page numbers may vary in other editions of the book or online. When making a note of words your child doesn't know, be sure to keep your notes in an easily accessible location (like here!) to facilitate revision later in the week.</p> <p><i>Just Phonics:</i> The dictation sentence for the day is given at the bottom of the previous page. (Or sometimes elsewhere in the book, as indicated!)</p>		

Day 3		Day 4
RELIGION		
The Life of My Savior	Have your child read 2. <i>God Made the World</i> (pg. 13)	
Notes/ Other ideas	Do the <i>Something to Do</i> on pg. 14	
GAEILGE		
As go Brách Liom B	We'll begin using this text in Week 3.	
Bun go Barr 1	Discuss the picture on pg. 2-3: 1. Cé atá ag léamh? ag caoineadh? ag ól? ag tafann? 2. An bhfuil Clíona ag gáire? Rossa ag léim? Mamó ag tafann? 3. Céard atá ar Róló? 4. Céard atá ar Mhamó? ar Chlíona? ar Mhamaí?	Re-read the Poem from the Answer Key. Continue to talk about the picture (pg. 2-3), using Irish as much as possible. Finally, say the words and have your child point to the pictures in <i>Exercise A</i> (pg. 4). Colour!
READING & PHONICS		
Reading-Literature: First Reader	Have your child read pg. 7-8: <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> (through 2:00), noting any words he doesn't know	Have your child read pg. 9-10, finishing <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> . Again, make a note of any words he doesn't know.
Just Phonics: First Class	Have your child begin <i>Revision: final consonant blends</i> (pg. 6 and pg. 7)	Have your child finish <i>Revision: final consonant blends</i> (pg. 6 and pg. 7)
HANDWRITING		
Just Cursive (for 1st Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a hAon)	Spend a while revising handwriting posture with your child. Ensure he is holding himself and his pencil correctly!	
MATHEMATICS		
Mathemagic 1 OR Mata Draíochta 1	Have your child complete the <i>Look back</i> on pg. 4-5	Have your child complete the <i>Join and Colour</i> and <i>Party Time</i> on pg. 6-7
Table Toppers 1	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		
<p><i>Gaeilge</i>: Teach your child that: When "mo" (my) is used to show possession, the next word takes a séimhiú. A séimhiú is an additional "h" that is added after the first letter in the word (except in words beginning with a vowel or in l, n, r).</p> <p>For example: cóta (coat) becomes mo chóta; mála (bag) becomes mo mhála.</p> <p>Translations and conversation starters are available in the our Answer Key if it's been a while since you studied Irish!</p> <p><i>Handwriting</i>: We ask that you spend <i>no more</i> than 10 minutes practising handwriting. This should be focused time. It is okay if the pages are not completed in that time frame; simply stop whenever 10 minutes is up!</p>		



First Class

	Day 1	Day 2
RELIGION		
The Life of My Savior	Have your child read <i>3. God Made Man</i> (pg. 14)	
Notes/ Other ideas	Have your child narrate the Lesson	
GAEILGE		
Bua na Cainte Readers: <i>Cúig Rón</i> Scéal 1	Read or Listen to the story a few times	Read or Listen to the story a few times
Bun go Barr 1	Look at <i>Exercise B</i> (pg. 5). Practise forming sentences using <i>Cé atá ag...?</i> . <i>Optional</i> : Then have your child copy out 2 dialogues (ex. <i>Cé atá ag rith? Tá Daidí ag rith. Níl Mamáí ag rith.</i>)	<i>Exercise C and D</i> (pg. 6): Teach your child the colours & numbers. Have him colour in the picture, saying the vocabulary as he uses them. Re-read the Poem and the Pronunciation Note.
READING & PHONICS		
Reading-Literature: First Reader	Revise any words your child did not immediately know from last week, then have him read pg. 1-5	Continue to revise words, then have your child read the rest of <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> (pg. 6-10)
Just Phonics: First Class		Have your child complete <i>Revision: ai, oa, ie and y</i> (pg. 8)
HANDWRITING		
Just Cursive (for 1st Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a hAon)	Have your child complete pg. 4	
MATHEMATICS		
Mathemagic 1 OR Mata Draíochta 1	Have your child complete <i>11 and 12</i> on pg. 8	Have your child complete <i>How many?</i> on pg. 9
Table Toppers 1	Have your child do <i>Day 1</i> of <i>Unit 2: Add 2</i> . Say the tables, learn the equations and do the exercises (pg. 4).	Have your child do <i>Day 2</i> of <i>Unit 2: Add 2</i> (pg. 4).
NOTES		

Reading & Phonics: To revise the words your child did not know, simply have him try to read your list of words, helping him when necessary.

Gaeilge: Bun go Barr: Numbers 1-8: a haon, a dó, a trí, a ceathair, a cúig, a sé, a seacht, a hocht. Uimhir (number). Translations for Day 4's questions are available in the Answer Key.

First Class

Term 1

Week 2

Day 3		Day 4
RELIGION		
The Life of My Savior	Have your child read <i>4. God Made Me</i> (pg. 16)	
Notes/ Other ideas	Talk about the topics on pg. 17	
GAEILGE		
As go Brách Liom B	We'll begin using this text next week. We recommend that you print out the Answer Key from the <i>Lamh Chunta</i> website if you don't remember your Irish well. The publisher-provided Answer Key contains all the words!	
Bun go Barr 1	Teach your child some additional vocabulary: bríste (trousers); geansaí (jumper); léine (shirt); carbhat (tie); hata (hat); clogad (helmet); buataisí (boots); bróga (shoes); t-léine (t-shirt); cóta (coat); ribín (ribbon). Re-read the Poem.	Discuss the picture on pg. 2-3: 1. An bhfuil bríste dearg, gorm, bán ag Clóna? 2. An bhfuil t-léine bán, oráiste ag Rossa? 3. An bhfuil clogad ar Mhamó? 4. An bhfuil cóta buí, dearg ar Chlóna? 5. An bhfuil buataisí ar Dhaideo?
READING & PHONICS		
Reading-Literature: First Reader	Have your child read the complete story, to someone else (a sibling, your spouse or another relation)	Have your child copy the words he did not know, in his best handwriting
Just Phonics: First Class	Have your child complete <i>Revision: ee, or, ng and both oo sounds</i> (pg. 9)	Have your child complete <i>Revision: ch, sh, th ad wh</i> (pg. 10)
HANDWRITING		
Just Cursive (for 1st Class) OR Scríobh Liom (Rang a hAon)	Have your child complete pg. 5	
MATHEMATICS		
Mathemagic 1 OR Mata Draíochta 1	Have your child complete <i>11 and 12</i> on pg. 10	Have your child complete <i>Number</i> on pg. 11
Table Toppers 1	Have your child do <i>Day 3</i> of <i>Unit 2: Add 2</i> (pg. 5).	Have your child do <i>Day 4</i> of <i>Unit 2: Add 2</i> (pg. 5).
NOTES		

Reading & Phonics: Reading aloud and properly enunciating to *other people* is a hallmark of a classical education. By practising reading aloud and doing so correctly, we train your child to be a good speaker and a good defender of the Faith in today's world.