

Maths

We were beginning “Measures” in school so you could start by reminding your child of the language such as big/bigger/biggest, tall/taller/tallest, small/smaller/smallest. Then on the Folens website account I have created, there are some materials you can use. Here's how to access it:

1. go to www.folensonline.ie (this will open a new page)
2. click the purple *Sign In* button
2. enter the email msbambrick2019@gmail.com
3. enter the password *seniorinfants* (all lower case and one word).

First activity: on the left, under “My Favourites”, scroll down and click on the two links called “Measures” (resource). These are suited to laptops/desktop computers. Each link is to a fun, interactive game which requires your child to identify the item that is smaller/tallest/shortest etc.

Second activity: close the games tab and go back to the screen where we initially saw “My Favourites”.

In the *My Favourites* list on the left, click on “Planet Maths Senior Infants”, (third from the bottom) and, on the next screen, click “e-book” (top right, green button). This is the online version of our Maths book.

Type 105 into the white box at the bottom centre of your screen and press *Enter* on your keyboard.

On page 105, you can discuss again with your child the terms smaller/taller etc before asking them to complete the activities such as “draw a bigger circle”. You have two options:

- 1) recreate this online page on a blank A4 page yourself (with the 6 boxes drawn out) so as they can see the original circle in front of them as a comparison. Or
- 2) If you have a printer, you could print the page for your child to fill in - the link is located at the end of this section.

If at all possible keep their work in their homework folder so I can correct on our return.

You can also continue on with their addition practice by completing pages 33 and 34 in their small (usual homework) book, which also includes number formation practice at the bottom of the page.

Feel free to explore this *Folens* account as there are a range of other games/activities that would help your child revise number, addition, time, shape, counting on etc.

Literacy

A. Phonics: “er” sound

Suggested steps to teach this new sound:

- Brainstorm with your child for words that they can hear the “er” sound in (give them a starting hint if necessary) Perhaps write these for future practice?
- Then show them the following list and ask them to sound them out each word:

ladder finger baker cooker singer player farmer rubber mother

father brother sister letter summer

- Watch the Youtube videos [Mr Thorne does Phonics](#) and [Geraldine Giraffe](#) are both fun and interactive - type “er phonics sound” into Youtube to find others)
- Phonics book page 28 - write as many *-er* words as they can fit, and then draw/stick a picture
- Please feel free to revise previously learned digraphs both on Youtube and by brainstorming words on a page (the phonics book should be a good reference).

B. Handwriting:

Our handwriting book “*Ready, Steady, Write*” is also available on the Folens Online account as above, under “*My Favourites*” :

1. Click on “*Ready, Steady, Write*” from the *My Favourites* list on the left

You will firstly see a page with plenty of resources (animations of lower case formations, additional practice pages to print etc) which you may find helpful.

2. Click “*e-book*” (green, in the top right hand corner) to go to our handwriting book (the large version we use in school).

On page 46 you will see capital H, on page 47 you will see capital B (with lower case revision of both letters also). You could do each letter on a different day. Your child is very familiar with finger writing on the table top, on the palm of their non-dominant hand, on someone’s back etc and you can also have them make the letter in sand, playdough too etc. The arrows and numbers at the top of each page show correct formation and you could encourage correct pencil grip, sitting up straight etc. As follow up towards the end of the week, you can use their small handwriting book which you have at home. You can go over their capital letters on page 23 with H and B. Please feel free to circle what you think is their best one on each page, and you can ask them to self-assess their own work in the same way.

*Please feel free to revise as many capital letters that we have covered in this way using the big book online.

C. Reading:

I have accessed a graded reading scheme online for you. Click on this: [Collins Big Cat e-books](#) .

When it opens, click on the *Teacher* portal and enter username:

parents@harpercollins.co.uk and password *Parents20!* to log in.

Here you can choose readers by level based on the colours at the side. As a starting point I would begin at the pink A readers and choose one of both fiction and non-fiction (you can filter these on the left hand side by ticking the relevant box) to see how they find this level. If you feel it is too easy then feel free to move them up to pink B and try the same approach. You are aiming to find the level most similar to the readers I send home from school. It is important that their confidence is built up so a book that is too challenging can be quite disheartening. Added to this, we can really work on their reading fluency if they are reading familiar words. Remember, “*lots of easy reading makes reading easy*”. By default, the book will have a voiceover but you can have your child read it themselves by muting the sound on

your device.

D. Tricky words:

Continue with *Bingo*, *Go Fish* etc. The next 3 pink words are ***does, made, their***.

Please explain this version of *their* (belongs to them) as opposed to *there* (over there)

Again “*Epic Phonics*” on Youtube has great [Tricky Word videos](#) which can help them revise. The sequence/groups are not exactly in tandem with ours but still very relevant.

E. Free Writing:

In normal circumstances, we would be beginning *Easter in Aistear* on 30th March. Writing a letter to the Easter Bunny, making a treasure map where they’ve hidden eggs and writing directions on it, or just simply writing what they know about Easter are all ideas to continue their free writing. The *Twinkl* information I have given below under the heading *Aistear* will provide suggestions for Easter vocabulary.

Gaeilge

Again on *Folens Online*, you will see *Abair Liom* (Speak With Me) under “*My Favourites*” on the left. (We use a different programme in class called *Bua na Cainte* (Conversation Success) so your child will not be familiar with these characters but it will be a nice novelty). Here's how to access it:

1. Click on *Abair Liom*,
2. The next page has 3 blue tabs at the top called “*Theme*”, “*Lesson*”, “*Resource Type*”. Click on *Lesson*, the middle one.
3. From the grey drop-down list, click #23 *An Cháisc (Easter)*,

You will see a variety of resources such as *Comhrá* (conversation), *Póstaer* (posters) and *Cártaí Meaitseála* (Match Cards) that can help your child explore the theme of “*An Cháisc*”.

The main vocabulary we will be practising is:

Crann – tree, *an ghrian* – the sun, *scamall* - a cloud, *spéir* - sky, *féar* - grass, *uan* - a lamb, *ubh Chásca* – an Easter egg, *ciseán* - a basket, *coinín* - a rabbit, *sicín* - a chicken, *páirc* – a field, *seacláid* – chocolate, *ag bailiú* – collecting.

If you are unsure of any pronunciation, try typing the English word into [this site](#), click *Enter* on your keyboard, and click the Munster pronunciation of the Irish translation (the third map down). Make sure your speakers are turned up.

4. At the top left, in *Your Filters*, click the X beside the green button marked *An Cháisc*

5. From the 3 blue tabs at the top called “*Theme*”, “*Lesson*”, “*Resource Type*”. click “*Resource Type*”, followed by “*Gníomhaíochtaí*”, and scroll down to the end. You will see a story that your child can listen to - *Cochailín Dearg* (Little Red Riding Hood) on page 1.

On the next page, 2, you will find another: *Luaithríona* (Cinderella).

P.E./ Music

- Joe Wicks (aka The Body Coach) is doing free daily P.E. classes on [his Youtube channel](#). Scroll down his page for kids' workouts.
- [Go Noodle](#) also offers plenty of ideas as does [RTEjr's 10@10](#)

Aistear (integrating Art/ Drama/ Geography/ History/ Science)

Twinkl has been made available for free to parents at this time. (You can go to the site [here](#), and on the right side (*New to Twinkl?*) enter your own email address and create a password. Then enter the code IRLTWINKLHELPS). Once logged in you can search for “*Saving Easter*” which is a story we would have been reading in school (it is in both e-reader and Power point version, for whichever suits you better). As follow up options, there is an activity called “*Saving Easter Home Learning Challenges*” that you might find useful too. There is also a word search that you could print out, sequencing cards to put the story in order, colour by number pages, colour by addition and so on and so forth, all based on the theme of Easter. Treat Twinkl as a “pick ‘n mix” toolkit as there are endless options.

Junk Art creations from recycled materials based on Easter theme - Easter eggs, Easter bunny, a basket, chicks, Chocolate Factory etc.

Construction – design your own Chocolate Factory showing where the Easter eggs are made, wrapped and packaged etc. Where do the workers eat? Where does the boss work? Where are the ingredients stored? Your child can simply draw this on an A4 page, explain their plans to you and happily build it with lego/bricks etc.

Playdough – using playdough to make baskets, Easter bunny, eggs, chicks, lambs etc. You will see playdough mats based on “*Saving Easter*” on Twinkl.

Drama/ Role play – Acting out the role of The Easter Bunny in “*Saving Easter*” and their interactions with the other characters. Adding an alternative ending?

Religion

Your child’s *Grow in Love* is at home and you have the option of completing pages 44 and 45 if you so wish. “The Story of Easter” Powerpoint on Twinkl may be helpful. Veritas, the publisher has made their resources free to parents. Go to the [Grow in Love site](#) and use these details:

email: trial@growinlove.ie

Password: *growinlove*

Click on the *Senior Infants* book, select *Theme 7 Holy Week & Easter*. There are short videos, reflections, prayers and activity sheets.

SPHE

Writing Easter cards to loved ones they can't visit at the minute and posting them, perhaps?

Drawing a picture of their favourite activities that they have participated in since school has been closed?

Writing to friends?