

Problem Solving Intervention

A whole school approach has been taken to tackle problem solving in Mathematics.

The following strategies will be taught to the pupils on a weekly basis. The pupils will then decide which strategy/strategies is most suitable when solving a problem.

The Strategies include:

3rd and 4th	5th and 6th
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read the problem/Reread.• Highlight the key words.• Count how many steps.• Write out a number sentence.• Estimate.• Calculate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make a model.• Draw a picture.• Find a pattern.• Guess and check.• Thoughtful Lists.• Work Backwards

Pupils are encouraged to :

- “Explain your actions”.
- “Defend your position”

You can help by:

- Encouraging your child to use the above strategies.
- Questioning them as to how they arrived at an answer (when they are correct and incorrect).
- Allow them to use a calculator to check their answer (3rd—6th)
- Do your tables on a daily basis.

Homework

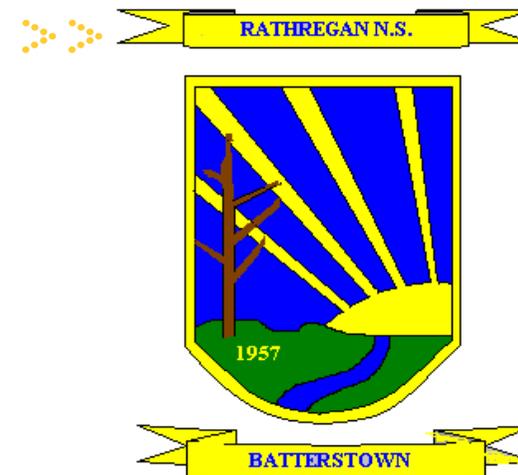
Homework is used to revise and consolidate what is learned in school.

Homework should take no longer than:

Class	Time
Junior and Senior	10 min
1st and 2nd	20 min
3rd and 4th	30 min
5th and 6th	40 min

- Reading must be done every night to enhance your child’s reading ability. *This is very important at junior and senior level.*
- Learning spellings using the strategies listed earlier is essential. Tables should also be done every night.
- It is recommended that pupils get two written subjects per night.
- Children should be able to do work on their own. Homework will at times be challenging to push your child to reach his/her potential.
- If your child is having difficulty with homework please contact the class teacher immediately.

Rathregan National School Numeracy & Literacy Plan 2011—2020



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Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This information leaflet outlines the school's strategy to improve numeracy and literacy among the pupils in our school.

It is an important blueprint of how we will work to develop and enhance the teaching and learning of numeracy and literacy.

The key areas in *Rathregan National School's Plan for Numeracy and Literacy* include:

Literacy

- Building Bridges of Understanding Comprehension Strategies.
- Spelling Intervention.

Numeracy:

- Problem Solving Intervention.

In order to enable parents and the community to support children's numeracy and literacy development, we would like to provide a brief outline of the above strategies.

This will ensure consistency and further cooperation between home and school.

Rathregan National School values your support and cooperation. If you have any recommendations, queries, or advice, please feel free to contact us.

Thanking you,

Teachers at Rathregan National School.

Building Bridges of Understanding

Building Bridges of Understanding is a whole school approach to the teaching of reading. Its primary focus is the teaching of comprehension, with the ultimate aim of enabling children to become self regulated strategic readers.

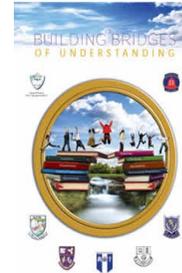
The eight key strategies are: Prediction, Visualisation, Making Connections, Questioning, Clarifying, Determining Importance, Inferring and Synthesising.

This programme is currently implemented from Junior Infant right through to Sixth Class.

Each strategy is explicitly modelled through a think aloud process using high quality fiction and non-fiction picture books.

You can help by:

- Allowing time for reading everyday at home.
- Asking your child about the strategies above.
- Encouraging the use of these strategies when reading.



Spelling Intervention

A spelling intervention has been introduced to the pupils from 1st to 6th class.

The following strategies will be taught to the pupils on a daily basis:

- Trace, copy, recall.
- Reverse Chaining by letter.
- Reverse chaining by syllable
- Highlighting the hard parts.
- Practice using the words in short phrases.

You can assist by:

- Asking which strategy is being used and implementing this at home also.
- Don't learn all the words at once!
- Review the spelling you know on your list and then tackle the difficult ones.
- Emphasise spelling words right when you're writing sentences-NOT just for the test.
- Train your hand to write the letters in the correct order.
- Use the words you've learnt in sentences both orally and in writing.

Remember Practise Makes Perfect ... but only if you're practicing it "right".