

# Kilcleagh N.S.

Tips for parents to aid development of Language/Literacy skills.

## Fifth & Sixth Class

Developing Oral Language	Writing with your Child	Reading with your Child
1. Encourage your child to develop a positive attitude to speaking/listening.	1. Encourage your child to keep a diary. Respect privacy.	1. Encourage your child to visit the local library as often as possible.
2. Discuss your child's school work successes/concerns / interests	2. Encourage your child to write for real purposes everyday – shopping lists / phone messages etc.	2. Recognise and praise your child's efforts in reading.
3. Respect your child's opinions and feelings	3. Praise the effort and respond to the message and not the handwriting, grammar etc.	3. Ensure your child has access to a wide range of reading material – newspapers, magazines, guides etc.
4. Involve your child in adult conversations where appropriate	4. Make sure that your child has access to a dictionary, thesaurus to help with writing.	4. Take an interest in different children's authors.
5. Help your child to extend his range of words in specialised subjects	5. Allow your child work on a word processor.	5. Discuss ideas and points of view proposed by newspaper articles etc.
6. Encourage your child to listen and respond courteously to others	6. Try crossword puzzles and 'Find the word puzzles'.	6. Provide a well-lit study / reading area.
7. Watch and discuss TV news/current affairs programmes together	7. Provide a range of attractive writing materials – coloured pens, fancy paper.	7. Ensure that you value and enjoy reading yourself.
8. Assist your child to locate information in the local library, internet	8. Encourage your child to write greeting cards / thank you notes etc.	8. Allow your child to choose his /her own reading material.
9. Talk about school topics and assignments	9. Encourage your child to take part in writing competitions / community projects.	9. Encourage your child to read for information – timetables / weather forecasts / menus
10. Play commercial games that focus on word building.	10. Show your child that you value writing by writing yourself	10. Encourage your child to try and guess unknown words.