Ideas for Writing from Scoil Naomh Iosaf

Dear Parents. These ideas can be used from first to sixth class although younger children may need parental assistance. Encourage children to do their best with spelling but also encourage approximate spelling as otherwise children's creativity can be stifled. Encourage the children to read their story aloud when they have finished and to talk about it and explain their drawings. Don't worry too much about mistakes in the writing. A lovely way to correct your child's writing is to use 'two stars and a wish'. Draw a star beside two places in your child's work that you think is well written, has interesting vocabulary, neat writing etc. Then pick one area where you 'wish' they could improve on next time they write. The children can also use 'two stars and a wish' to self-assess their own work. M. Hennessy.

Choose a topic that interests you from the list below. Think about what you could write. If you like you could discuss your ideas with your family. Write as much as you can about the topic and try to use as many interesting words as you can so it is exciting for others to read. Remember to use neat writing and draw a picture when you have finished.

<u>Invent an Animal</u>: Invent a new animal -- describe what it looks like, what it sounds like, how it moves, and what it eats. Is it scary or cuddly or something else altogether? Would it be a pet or live in the wild (or in a zoo)?

<u>An Invention I'd Like</u>: Think about an invention that you'd like to have or make. Write about what this new device would do and why you'd like to use it.

<u>Invent a New Holiday</u>: Invent a new holiday. What would this holiday celebrate? How would you celebrate it? Would there be any special food or symbols for your holiday?

<u>A New, Imaginary Pet</u>: Draw and describe an imaginary pet that you would like (or not like) to have.

<u>A New Olympic Sport</u>: Invent a new Olympic sport. There are many unusual Olympic sports, like skeleton (running and then sledding), biathlon (skiing plus shooting), and curling (using brooms to propel an object over ice). Make up a new sport that would be fun to watch and play.

New Student Questions: If there was a new student in class and you could only ask that person three questions to get to know them, what would you ask them?

<u>A New Website</u>: If you could put up a new website on any topic at all, what would it be? Write about why you chose this topic, what the website would contain, and who else you think might be interested in going to your site.

<u>An Act of Kindness</u>: Write a page on something nice that you did for someone, or on something nice that someone did for you for no reason.

<u>An Adventure I'd like to have</u>: If you could have any type of adventure at all, what would it be? Write a page on an adventure that you'd like to experience. Think of the wildest adventure you can imagine.

<u>Autobiography</u>: Write the story of your life. Start with your birth and continue the adventure up to the present.

My Best Birthday Ever: Write a page on the best birthday you ever had. Describe what made it so special.

The Best Gift You Gave: Write about the best gift you ever gave. Who did you give it to and why did you give it to them? What made it a great gift?

The Best Gift You Received: Write about the best gift you ever received. What was it and why did you like it so much? What made it so special?

The Best Thing I've Learned in School: Write about the most valuable thing you ever learned in school. What made it so useful for you?

My Best Holiday Ever: Write a page on the best holiday or trip that you ever had. Describe where you went, who you went with, what you did, and why you enjoyed it.

A Dream I've Had: Describe a dream that you've had. How did the dream make you feel?

My Favorite Game: What is your favorite game? Describe the game and how it is played. Explain the rules so that someone could learn how to play the game.

My Favorite Holiday: What is your favorite holiday? Describe what you like to do on this holiday, who you like to be with at that time, and why you enjoy it so much.

My Favorite Sport: What is your favorite sport? Why do you like it, and what do you like best about it?

My Favorite Movie: What is your favorite movie? Describe the characters, the story, and what you like best about the movie.

<u>The Funniest Thing I've Ever Seen or Heard</u>: What is the funniest thing that you've ever seen or heard? Maybe it was a joke that a friend told you, a comedy routine, or a scene in a movie. Describe this amusing event and tell why you thought it was funny.

<u>Go Back in Time</u>: If you could go back in time and re-experience an event in your life, what would it be. Would you go back to change an event that happened or to re-experience a happy time? Or something else?

Giving Thanks: Write a page on what are you most thankful for in life.

If I Could Be a Different Age...: If you could be any age at all, how old would you be (older or younger)? Write about why you would like to be this age and what you would do.

If I Had a Thousand Euro: Write a page on what you'd do if you had one thousand euros.

<u>If I Turned into an Animal</u>: If you had to turn into a different animal for a single day, what animal would you choose to become? Why did you choose that animal? What would do when you became that animal, and where would you go? How do you think you would feel when you were that animal? How would people treat you? How would other animals and people treat you?

<u>If I Were a Teacher</u>: Write a page on what you would do if you were a teacher for a day. What subjects would you teach and how would you teach them?

<u>If I Were the President</u>: Write a page on what you'd do if you were the President. How would you change the world?

<u>An Imaginary Pet</u>: Draw and describe an imaginary pet that you would like (or not like) to have.

<u>I'm an Expert</u>: Everyone is great at something - write about what you do best. It could be a hobby, a sport, reading, playing chess, or anything else you excel at.

<u>Improve the World</u>: What you would do to improve the world? Think of actions you could take to help make the world a better place.

An Invention I'd Like: Think about an invention that you'd like to have or make. Write about what this new device would do and why you'd like to use it.

<u>Invent an Animal</u>: Invent a new animal -- describe what it looks like, what it sounds like, how it moves, and what it eats. Is it scary or cuddly or something else altogether? Would it be a pet or live in the wild (or in a zoo)?

I Wonder Why: Think of something you have wondered about and write about it.

<u>A Magical Spell</u>: A Magic Spell. If you could devise a magical spell, what would it be and what would it do? Write about why you chose this new spell and how you would use it.

<u>Message in a Bottle</u>: If you were stranded on a deserted island and could send out one message in a bottle, what would you write in that message, and why would you write those particular things?

The Most Annoying Things: Write about the most irritating, annoying things in your life.

My Earliest Memory: What is the first memory you have of your life? Write about what you remember, how old you were at the time, and why you think you remember this event in particular. What do you think of this event now?

My Family: Write about the members of your family. Draw and describe each person and what they mean to you.

My Town: If an out-of-town visitor was coming to visit, where would you take your visitor? Describe the best places around your town and why they are so interesting. Write about parks, museums, lakes, stores, restaurants, and other places you enjoy.

My Personal Hero: Who is your personal hero? Write a page on your hero's accomplishments and what makes that person a hero. If you don't have a personal hero, describe the characteristics that someone would have to possess to be your personal hero.

<u>Something I Learned from a Bad Experience</u>: Think about something bad that happened to you, but taught you something. Write about this experience and what you learned from it. Do you think that this knowledge will help you later in life?

My Special Day: If you had a day all for yourself and could do whatever you wanted to, what would you do? Start with waking up and describe the entire day. Include things like what you'd eat, who you'd see, where you'd go, and what you'd do.

My Strangest Relative: Most people have at least one strange relative. If you do, write about that person. Describe what is unusual about that person. What is their relationship to you? Do you like that person?

My Superpower: If you could have one superpower, what would it be? Write a page explaining what the superpower is, why you would like to have it, and what you would do with this new power. How would your life change if you had this superpower?

<u>A New Website</u>: If you could put up a new website on any topic at all, what would it be? Write about why you chose this topic, what the website would contain, and who else you think might be interested in going to your site.

<u>The Scariest Thing That Ever Happened To Me</u>: What is the scariest thing that ever happened to you? Describe this event and write about why it scared you.

Self-Portrait: Draw a self-portrait, and describe yourself in writing.

<u>A Space Adventure</u>: If you could travel anywhere in space, where would you go and why? What do you think it would be like there?

<u>Stranded on an Island</u>: If you were going to be stranded on a deserted island and could take three items with you, what three items would you take and why? The three items have to fit in an ordinary backpack. Describe each item fully and tell why you want each one.

What I Like Best in School: What is your favorite part of the school day? Write a page on what you like the best in school.

What I Want To Do When I Grow Up: Write a page on what you want to do when you grow up. What career do you want and what do you want to accomplish?