**“Be Careful What you Wish for”**

**By Niall Byrne 3rd Class**

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Joe. He liked to play football and hang out with his friends. It was the weekend and Joe had a birthday party. They played games and ate lots of cake. He had a great day. When he got home, his mammy said, “Joe, it’s time for bed! You have school tomorrow”. Joe wasn’t happy. It was only 8.30pm and he wasn’t tired. Joe replied “But Mammy it’s not even dark and I’m old enough to stay up late”. Joe’s mammy began to get angry, “Joe you’re only eight, you’re not a big boy yet, now go to sleep”. Joe began to cry and huffed his way to bed. Lying wide awake, Joe was thinking to himself, “Oh I wish I was an adult”.

The next morning, Joe got up to get ready for school. As he walked into the kitchen he couldn’t see or hear his mammy. Instead he saw a woman and two children eating breakfast in the kitchen. “Good morning Daddy!” The children screamed. Joe was very confused. He ran into the bathroom, when he looked into the mirror he saw an adult looking back at him. “I’m an adult! My wish came true!” Joe yelled.

He was over the moon. Joe walked back into the kitchen helping his children get ready for school. Joe’s wife said “are you not going to get ready for work honey?” He snapped, “Oh! Emm…yes I’ll go get ready now”. Walking out to the car Joe thought, “How am I going to get to work? I don’t know how to drive!” So in the end he took his bike. Joe didn’t know where he worked! So far, being an adult wasn’t working out for him. Joe ended up missing work. He didn’t care. He cycled home. His wife was very angry that he didn’t go to work. “Joe you can do the cleaning since you have nothing better to do” she said, walking away from him. Joe had no clue what she was talking about. He asked her, “What do you want me to do? “She replied “you can hang out the washing and clean the kitchen”. So Joe went to the washing room and put the basket in front of the washing machine. He didn’t know how to open it! Joe tried his best and eventually got the door open. He put the clothes in the basket and went to the line, the clothes were going everywhere! They blew into the garden and over the ditch. The pegs kept breaking, it was a disaster! He collected the washing and brought it back inside. Next, Joe found the brush and swept the kitchen floor. He didn’t have to do this when he was a child. That night Joe wished that he could turn back time and enjoy his childhood again, but it didn’t work.

Joe had to live the same day all over again. He had to hang out the washing, clean the house and do the children’s homework. Joe wanted to be a child again. He didn’t want to do these jobs anymore, well not for another while anyway. He wanted to see his mam and dad again and go to school. He missed playing football with his friends. He wondered did anybody notice he was gone. Did anybody think he was missing? He needed to get back home, and fast.

That night Joe was lying wide awake in bed crying, missing his old life. Suddenly, a fairy appeared at the front of Joe’s bed. “I see you’re not happy?” the fairy said. He replied, “No, I hate being an adult. I don’t want to go to work or clean the house, not yet. Can I please be a child again?” The fairy was thinking, she thought of an idea. “I will take back your wish if you never fight with your mam or dad again and do what they say, ok?” “Deal!” Joe said, jumping out of bed and waiting for the fairy. “Let’s go! 3…2…1…” Joe had finally reversed his wish, so let’s go back to his childhood quickly.

Joe woke up in his truck bedroom. He ran to his mam and screamed, “I missed you!” She had no clue what he was talking about. Joe spent his day playing football with his friends, like any child would. But he couldn’t stop thinking to himself “Be careful what you wish for, because it can go wrong”.

