



MAY 2020 UPDATES



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Principal: Mrs. Mary Bacheta

Dear parents/guardians

We are now into week 8 of remote learning. I don't think any of us thought it would last so long. As a school community, we have been working together to get keep the learning on track and have been creative in so many ways with the practical and hands on activities and challenges.

There is no doubt in my mind that we would not have been able to achieve this success without the positive relationships, the motivation and enthusiasm that exists in our school community. These key ingredients and the trust we have in each other has put the children at the forefront of our daily thoughts and actions.

The close links and communication we had in place before lock down enabled us to keep in touch with you right from the beginning. We are continuing to build on this as we progress through the weeks. We are working daily and continue to seek the most effective ways to keep our children engaged remotely. We thank you for keeping in touch and letting us know how the children are doing. Your feedback is important to us. **Please check your junk/spam mail regularly as a small number of emails are not reaching parent inboxes.**

If you need any further support or advice, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will do our best to help.

REMINDER SCHOOL CLOSURES

The children can take a much needed and well-deserved break from remote learning on **Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th May 2020**. It is back to the books again on Wednesday 27th May.

COLLECTION OF FINAL LEARNING PACKS

Staff are currently preparing final learning materials for those classes who have completed their last pack. Your child's teacher will email you if you need to collect a new learning pack. This learning pack will include work for the remainder of the school year.

The learning packs can be collected from the assembly hall between **9.00am and 12 noon** on the following days:

- **Wednesday 27th May**
- **Thursday 28th May**

Similar to previous collections, please observe social distancing and PHA guidelines. If you can collect for others, please do so. Thank you.

Please also return any library books that the children have completed. There is no need to return other resources until the end of June.

READING IS SO IMPORTANT

Keep the children reading by accessing the online reading resources already shared. Links included below as a reminder and easier access.

OXFORD READING OWL

Please click on the link to access a wide range of reading books.

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/library-page?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=&level=oxford+level+3&level_select=oxford+level+3&book_type=&series=6

No class login needed during this time. Just browse the library.

REMINDER ABOUT THIS ONLINE READING RESOURCE

myON is a digital library containing over a thousand exciting books. myON books come with a range of tools, including audio narration, to help children enjoy and improve their reading. During this school closure all children have access to myON.

Please click on the link and browse the wide selection of books available.

<https://readon.myon.co.uk/>



In the home page click 'start reading'.

LIBRARIES NI

To become a virtual member of the library, please click below and complete the online registration form. It is well worth it and will open a whole world of books for you and your child to enjoy.

https://www.librariesni.org.uk/layouts/LNI_CustomPages/CreateLMSUsers.aspx

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS



Father Sean will be celebrating a special mass on Saturday 30th May at 11.00 am for the children in the parish who are waiting to celebrate their First Holy Communion. The children and their families are invited to take part in the mass remotely. Staff in the parish schools will participate in the readings and prayers. More details will follow.



FAN THE FLAME MASS FOR PRIMARY 7 PUPILS



Bishop Mc Keown is saying Mass on 4th June through the webcam at Saint Eugene's Cathedral for the P7 pupils who would normally have been at the Fan the Flame Mass in Celtic Park. We would like the children to engage from home with their families as much as possible. The Gospel for the day is the Beatitudes. The P7 teachers will email with more details.

RECENT HOME SCHOOLING SURVEY

Thank you for completing the recent survey telling us how you are managing the digital challenges related to home learning.

The survey confirmed much of what we had already planned for and confirmed the best way forward. Every home has access to at least 1 digital device however, in many homes there can be up to 4 children/adults needing online access at the same time. We recognise that the learning packs are needed to ensure equality of access to learning for everyone. Remember-Learning is everywhere!

The time and efforts of the staff in the preparation of detailed Learning Packs was recognised by parents and the on-going support provided is much appreciated.

The daily opportunity to seek advice and support from the teacher (by email) has been invaluable. Thank you for your warm and uplifting comments. It is always lovely to receive positive feedback and especially at times like this. We are all grateful for your words of thanks, your prayers, your kindness and good wishes.

I would also like to thank the staff for their commitment and dedication to the children and their families. The staff have led the way for others to follow and I am super proud of everyone.

The school has provided a wide range of resources on various topics. We have tried to space these out so that you have time to choose which resources suit your family best. Parents said they are especially thankful for the emphasis and the resources on physical & mental health/well-being. This is an area that is important for us all.



Please continue to visit our school website daily and keep in touch with the teacher.

Take care

Mrs. Bacheta and staff