



26/03/2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that our families are keeping well and staying safe. It has been wonderful to see so many of our pupils through pictures and videos, as well as the other fantastic work that has been sent in – thank you.

On Tuesday, we received the latest news from Government that schools are to remain closed until after the Spring/Easter holidays (<https://bit.ly/DESPressRelease24March>). I will continue to update through email as more information on school closures becomes available.

Teachers will continue to interact with their classes, as they have been doing, through email, ClassDojo and Seesaw. Emails with teaching and learning activities will continue to be sent out next week.

Classes from 2nd to 5th are seeking to move teaching and learning activities to the Seesaw platform (if not already done so) as the layout allows for a greater independence for the pupils as they are completing the activities and sending in work for teacher to see. It is very straightforward to do. Teachers will provide further details to parents/pupils at these class levels (as necessary).

As always, parents can contact teachers by email or ClassDojo with questions and queries about the teaching & learning activities.

We hope that the activities sent home are helping to add some additional structure, focus, enjoyment and learning to the day for our pupils during these challenging times. Families across the country, and in our own school community, are facing significant additional stressors in their homes as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak. Please remember that that the activities sent home are not intended to add to this. Do not worry if activities cannot be completed, parents and pupils should do what they can, in consideration of their own family circumstances.

If it is not currently possible for your family to engage with distance learning activities, I would ask that you please touch base with your children's class teachers by Class Dojo/email once a week – this is important to us, to know that our families are okay. We are all missing our pupils greatly and cannot wait to have everyone back together in our school when the current challenges have passed.

Some of our families may not speak English as their main language at home. Covid-19 information has been translated in other languages by the HSE and is available here: <https://bit.ly/2QKrKty>.

I know that we are all concerned and taking advice from the HSE regarding the need to maintain social/physical distancing, keeping up the hand-washing routines we have all become accustomed to and looking out for the vulnerable neighbours and family members.

Please continue to look after yourselves and each other.

Yours sincerely,
Claire Downes