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St. Mary's Primary School (Lisbuoy)

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Principal: Mrs. M. Martin

Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all had a happy and enjoyable Christmas. The staff and governors at St. Mary's would like to wish you all a safe and happy new year.

Online Learning

As you will all be aware, we have now moved to online learning, following the directive from DE. I'm sure you can all appreciate this is not an ideal situation and not what we would have wished for, however, to reduce the impact of the virus and keep us all safe this is our best option at present.

We will be using our online learning platform, Google Classroom. Parents are asked to ensure their child can log in through MySchool or using the GC app.

Daily lessons will be posted by class teachers; Phonics, Reading, Mental Maths, Numeracy & Literacy. Children will also receive other curriculum activities throughout the week.

P3-7 pupils are encouraged to access Accelerated Reader from home and continue to quiz. Newsdesk (P5-7) and Junior Newsdesk (P3-4) are also available through MySchool.

Children respond so well to structure and routine, however, we understand the pressures of home life and only expect you to do what is manageable within your own circumstances at present. Never be afraid to ask for help, we are more than happy to answer your questions and support you as best we can.

Home Learning Packs

Home learning packs will be available to collect from school on Monday 11th January. These will cover work for 3 weeks (11- 29th Jan). Work will be assigned daily on Google classroom to complement the work in home learning packs. Please ensure work is only completed from the pack on the day it is assigned by the teacher on GC. Teachers endeavour to support your child's learning as best they can, for example; PowerPoint presentations, videos, Collaborate Ultra, online resources, etc.

Please remember life skills, social skills and personal development are huge areas of the curriculum which you can teach through practical tasks.

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together



Collection times as follows:

Surname A-G: 10.00-10.15am

Surname H-M: 10.20 - 10.35am

Surname Mc: 10.40 - 10.55am

Surname N-Z: 11.00 - 11.15am

Vulnerable children and children of key workers attending school will receive their packs on Monday.

Supervised Learning

Following DE guidance, school will remain open for supervised learning for vulnerable children and the children of keyworkers. Children will be supervised in the Sports Hall. They will be kept in socially distanced 'family' bubbles. Children will complete the tasks set on GC for that day, as they would be doing at home. Children attending school should wear full school uniform, bring a snack and packed lunch and P3-7 pupils a pencil case with appropriate materials in it along with their reusable water bottles.

School will be open for children from 9.00am - 2.00pm (P1-2) or 3pm (P3-7) (Monday - Thursday) and all children will continue to go home at 2.00pm on Friday.

Please ensure you have downloaded 'SchoolsNI' app to receive notifications of updates on our school website.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your continued support during these difficult times. We are all in this together, and will come through this stronger as a school community. Please remember our children need to be nurtured, emotionally stable and reassured - their happiness is the most important thing for us all!

Yours sincerely,

Martina Martin

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(Principal)