

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL GLENARIFF

Principal: Mrs Róisín Mc Carry



8th January 2021

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

School Closure:

As you are aware, things have changed considerably since last week and I wish to provide you with an update on the new arrangements:

School will now close until after the mid-term break in February. This means that we expect pupils return to school on Monday 22nd February 2021. This is the latest update that we have and should this change to a later date we will be in touch.

Remote Learning:

Materials for pupils to complete at home will be uploaded to the school website (or the SeeSaw app for Foundation Stage pupils) by Monday morning at 9am. As with the previous lockdown, we have provided both hard copies and online work for all classes in the school, you have received the packs this morning. We believe this will greatly reduce pressure on parents and children when devices are required at home for more than 1 child.

Please note the following important information:

- **Remote learning** as detailed below will **begin on Monday 11th January**. Each teacher will update their weekly overview by each Monday morning.
- The work packs should be completed each day and checked/checked by a supervising adult. This will allow the children the opportunity to gain immediate feedback on their work and provide parents with an opportunity to discuss their progress with them.
- Teachers will detail information on which materials need to be completed each day. This may be via the weekly planner, SeeSaw, Teams or be contained within the packs.

Communication:

We will continue to communicate with parents via email and school app as and when required. Teachers will maintain contact with parents via SeeSaw and email. Parents can contact staff via both methods and telephone contact can also be arranged if required.

Parents will already have their class teacher's email address. Miss McQuillan and Mrs McAuley are our school Safeguarding team and are available to speak with any parent who wishes to discuss any issues of a pastoral nature during the lockdown. They can be contacted by ringing the school office on the usual number or by email on mmcquillan800@c2kni.net and cmcauley871@c2kni.net

Children of Key Workers/ Vulnerable Children:

Children attending school during lock down should wear their school uniform.

Please note the following important information:

- Children attending are asked to come to school between 9.00 and 9.15am if possible.
- Parents must register their child if they are going to be attending school. Do not send a child to school without having been given permission to do so by the school principal.

- Children will finish school at the time they usually finished at during term 1. If more than one child is attending the school and they are all being collected at the same time this will be at the earlier child's finishing time. Parents can also collect their children by prior arrangement at a time earlier than the normal finishing time. Just let us know in advance.
- Children attending school require a healthy break time snack, a drink and a packed lunch.
- While in school children will be engaged in supervision rather than teaching. They should bring their work pack with them each day and staff will supervise the completion of this work. It will then go home each day with the child to be checked/ corrected by the parent.
- Children will not be supervised by their own teacher each day that they are in school. Staff will be providing supervision on a rota basis.
- Children will not be in a bubble with only their classmates as children will be in mixed age groups for the purpose of facilitating lock down supervision.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your co-operation. These are very challenging times and the constantly changing nature of the situation, particularly in the education system, is presenting many challenges to schools.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff for their professionalism and dedication to meeting the educational needs of all of our pupils at this time.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs R McCarry
(Principal)