

Mid Term Remote Learning Update: February 2021

Dear parent or carer

Five weeks done! Thank you all for your support and cooperation as we worked together through a very challenging time. But – Spring is just around the corner and brighter days are ahead.



Mid-term Homework: NONE!

Well – almost. It is important that you all tidy away all traces of homeschooling until you are ready to return Monday 22nd February. You all need a complete break – and deserve it.

I have included a few activities that you might want to get involved in – a Junk Art competition from Mid Ulster Council, information on a Joy of Moving Winter Games pack from IFA and a family online safety plan. These are optional – just ideas for a day you may be looking for something different to do.

Remember to plan a family treat this mid-term! It can be something simple – a walk, a scoop of ice cream or a film together (remember that was our top pick for what to do if you were feeling a little lockdown sadness).

Have a lovely break and many thanks for your continued support – this will pass.

Mrs D Graffin

Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

Dates for the diary

Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th Feb	Mid Term Break
Tues 16 th Feb	Pancake Tuesday
Wed 17 th Feb	Ash Wednesday - Why not watch mass at 11am on Magherafelt parish webcam?
Mon 22 nd Feb	Week 6 remote/blended learning – start using pack given out on 12th Feb
Mon 1 st March	Week 7 remote/blended learning begins Post primary applications open at 12 noon

Staying connected

Thanks to everyone for the really very positive feedback about the videos the teachers have been making and sharing. Of course, we could do nothing without you and your engagement - sending in photos and videos. You have shared the enjoyment your children get from watching these over and over again! I'd like to personally thank all staff for the caring and creative way they have embraced the challenge of keeping connected as a class and school. No mean feat! In fact, the work of the staff continues to amaze me every day – I am blessed to work with such a dedicated bunch – who are great fun, too! Definitely #bestschool

Reminder: Lockdown Stone #2



The lockdown stones brought back in September still take pride of place at our front door. After lots of thinking about what we could do this time, I have come to the conclusion that there would be nothing better than making another. *Just like the last time*, watch out for a suitable stone when you are out for a walk. *Just like the last time*, be as creative as you want. AND *just like the last time*, we look forward to welcoming you back as you leave your lockdown stone at the front door once again. This will pass!



IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

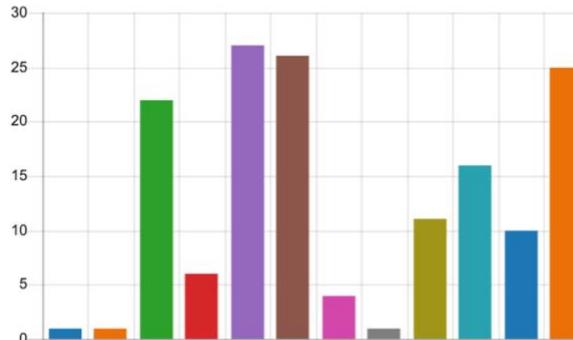


The results are in

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

[More Details](#)

- super hearing 1
- super smelling 1
- super speed 22
- super strength 6
- being invisible 27
- able to fly 26
- super stretchy 4
- able to spin a web 1
- able to shoot fire 11
- able to travel back & forward i... 16
- able to freeze time 10
- other 25



Other powers:

- Teleportation (5)
- Kill the virus (4)
- All (3)
- Become an animal (3)
- Telekinesis (2)
- Other ideas...**
- Vision, Read people's minds, Control water, Able to walk through walls, To be invincible, Able to summon animals past and present, To turn people into ice, Help people come back to life

Invisibility just knocks being able to fly into 2nd most popular superpower.

Can you put them in order from most to least popular?

How many people voted for the same super power as you?

What about others in your house

The most popular super powers by class are:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
able to fly	super speed	being invisible	being invisible
Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Staff
able to fly (including the teacher!)	able to travel back & forward in time	mix of all	able to freeze time AND travel back & forward in time

The REAL findings of the survey:

We are all superheroes! Everyone at home and at school has shown resilience and survival skills beyond what you could ever have imagined 12 months ago. You deserve to give yourself a big pat on the back and appreciate **WE CAN DO HARD THINGS!** It's official!

Have a really well-deserved break over mid term.

Remote Learning Survey

Thanks to everyone – we had over 100 responses and are very encouraged by the feedback. It will take us some time to look through it all! A summary of responses will be shared after mid-term. The feedback has been very positive and reassuring that we are all working together to support the children.

This too, shall pass.

When things are bad, remember: It won't always be this way. Take one day at a time.

When things are good, remember: It won't always be this way. Enjoy every great moment.



Mid Ulster Council Recycling & Art Challenge

Primary school children in the district are invited to take part in the competition by creating a sculpture out of the everyday recyclable items found in their blue bin. It can be a fairy, a robot, a rocket, a car or even a scary dinosaur. There are so many marvellous things waiting to be discovered!

The challenge aims to make children more aware of the items in their blue bin, and enhance their understanding of the importance of recycling and re-using our waste.

The Rules:

- The competition is only open to children who live or attend school in Mid Ulster. Only 1 entry per child.
- Sculptures must be made from at least 2 recycled materials found in your blue bin. Sculptures must be 3D.
- All materials used in the creation of your sculpture apart from paint, tape, glue or fasteners used to hold it together must be recycled from your blue bin.
- Entries must include the child's, name, age, school and contact details and a paragraph explaining what your sculpture is and listing the main materials used.
- It must also include a minimum of 2 photos but no more than 4 of your sculpture. Sculptures must be photographed and entries must be submitted electronically to recycling@midulstercouncil.org by Wednesday 10th March 2021.
- All sculptures should be age appropriate. Parents can help but it should be the child's work.

The prizes:

- 10 lucky winners will receive a brand new Fire 7 tablet and the most creative entries will be profiled on the Council's social media channels.

Closing Date: The competition closes on Wednesday 10th March 2021.

For more information on the competition visit www.midulstercouncil.org/binsmart or contact John Murtagh at Mid Ulster District Council. Tel: 03000 132 132 ext. 23402 or E: john.murtagh@midulstercouncil.org



Over the past weeks some classes have received daily PE activities suggestions. These were sent to us by IFA coaches who have been working in New Row as part of their funded PE programme. Their latest initiative is **THE JOY OF MOVING WINTER GAMES**. The full pack has been uploaded to our website on a new page for related resources:

<http://www.newrowps.com/nrps-healthy-bodies-and-minds/>

HOW TO USE THIS PACK

This pack has been designed for families to have fun. There are lots of different games to get everyone involved whilst you are at home – including over mid-term. All you need to play is a small space, some willing participants and a small amount of equipment –

which can even be made from every day household items!

After Mid-Term, our School Council will be helping you all get active by working collaboratively on an inspiring message – can't wait to see it!

Online safety at home

Week 5: Homework!



Well done to our digital leaders led by Mrs Scullion who worked hard with Mr Hason to produce a very informative Safer Internet Day video which can be viewed at <http://www.newrowps.com/parent-area/e-safety-advice-a/>
The posters sent in shared important messages – thank you all at home! The aim is of course to be more aware of how we can stay safe online. NEXT STEP: what is your family's online safety plan? Take a little time to complete over mid term – it will be time well-spent. You can share it with us and let us know if it was helpful – and that's optional!



An internet we trust
Exploring reliability in the online world



Safer Internet Day 2021



The _____ family online safety plan



Look around your home. Search for all the devices which connect to the internet and record here:

We have devices which connect to the internet in our home.



It's time to talk

How do we use the internet as a family? (e.g for entertainment, for research...)



How can we keep our family safe and happy online?

What can we use our devices for?

What can't we use our devices for?

Where will we keep our devices?

When can we use our devices?

What should we do if something worries, upsets or confuses us online?



Our next steps

Adults' next steps:

Young people's next steps:

Date:

Signed by:

This plan has been shared with:

(grandparents, aunts, uncles, childminder etc.)