



Thursday 19th March 2020

- Cregagh Primary School will close on Friday 20th March at the normal time of 2pm, **until further notice** due to the worldwide Coronavirus pandemic.
- The school buildings will then be **closed to ALL members of the public**: pupils, parents & visitors until further notice.
- School will stay in direct contact with parents over the coming days, weeks & possibly months through: text messages, Facebook, school website & the See-Saw App. **Please make sure school has a working mobile number so we can stay in touch with you.**
- A booklet entitled **Learning Arrangements for Emergency School Closure Due to Covid-19** has already been sent home. This explains our arrangements for providing families with learning activities during the school closure. If you have not got a copy, you can see it online on the school's website (www.cregaghprimary.org.uk - in the *News Section*).
- Cregagh Primary School intends to support its pupils during the closure by:
 - ✓ Providing 'pencil & paper' home learning work packs – the first two packs (one for week 1 and another for week 2) will be sent home on Friday afternoon. These first packs are to last two weeks. Each pack will come with instructions from the class teacher. **Parents of children who are absent today (and therefore won't get their packs) can pick up copies from Mount Merrion Parish Church Hall later between 3pm and 6pm this afternoon or on Saturday between 10am-12noon.** These packs are for Cregagh Primary School children only.
 - ✓ This work is to be kept at home and not returned to school / MMPC (reducing the chances of spreading the Covid-19 virus that can live on both hard and soft surfaces). This work should be spread across Monday to Friday. **It will be very important for parents to establish from the very beginning a robust 'school learning time' when work is to be completed by children.** Morning is best. We suggest 9:30am to 11:30am/12noon each day.

- ✓ Once these two packs (for the first two weeks) are completed, further packs (for week 3 and all other subsequent weeks) will be made available for collection from Mount Merrion Parish Church Hall on Fridays between 9am and 6pm, or Saturday mornings 10am to 12noon, in time for each new week starting on the Monday.
- ✓ No work packs will be provided during the Easter holidays (Monday 6th - Friday 17th April). However, the next batch of work packs will be available from Friday 17th April from MMPC Hall.
- ✓ On top of these 'pencil & paper' work packs, teachers will continue to set reading through the school's online reading scheme **Bug Club**.
- ✓ Teachers will also send parents additional learning activities through the **See-Saw App**.
- ✓ Dozens of online learning activities are listed in the **Learning Arrangements for Emergency School Closure Due to Covid-19** booklet.
- ✓ Teachers will 'check-in' families by telephone every other week.
- ✓ We have shared teachers' school email addresses. These are not to be used unless necessary – remember, teachers will be at home most of the time caring for their own children and parents. Teachers' email inboxes will only be checked during school hours (Monday-Friday 9am-3pm). It may take up to 48 hours for teachers to reply. Please be patient and understanding.

 I will continue to share updates, announcements from the Department of Education, Education Authority, etc. during the school closure.

 Lastly, please allow me to thank you all your support over the 2019-20 academic year (so far!) but also for the many messages of support we have received over the last couple of weeks as we have all tried to navigate a course through these unprecedented circumstances we find ourselves in. I would encourage us all to try and live up to our school's motto: "**Together, we make a difference**" and also our 3 core values of: **Learning, Family & Community**.

Take care of yourselves and take care of one another. We will pull through this together. We will remain in contact.



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