



Glynn Primary School
26 Main Road
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Tel: 028 28 276133

19th March 2020

Dear Parent,

As you are aware the Minister for Education has announced that schools will close from the end of the day on Friday 20th March 2020. We received an e-mail from the Minister on Wednesday evening at 6.48pm stating that;

'Schools, pre-schools, and statutory nurseries will close at the end of the day on Friday 20th March for all pupils and children.'

While news reports are suggesting a very lengthy period of closure, as yet, we have had no communication from the Department of Education advising for how long we will be closed. However, the Education Authority has advised us to prepare home education packs for four weeks.

Each child has been given a paper based education pack specifically tailored to their individual learning needs. This can, if the technology is available, be supported by the online app SeeSaw. If you cannot access SeeSaw just use the paper education pack. Above all do not worry too much, do what you can, we understand that many of you are working from home or relying on others to help with child care. Especially for the older children, we have tried to create the packs so that children can work quite independently, with additional support from our videos on SeeSaw. There are many learning opportunities in a day, not just the ones available in the pack. Remember to have some fun!

SeeSaw is a way of allowing children to access some videos to aid their home learning. We are hoping you are able to download the free SeeSaw Class app (not SeeSaw Family) to the most suitable device that your child can access, whether this be a desktop/ laptop, a tablet or a phone, the app is available on all these platforms. Within the education pack your child will

Principal: Miss D M Hawthorne MEd, BEd (Hons), DASE

have a QR code that allows you to access their classes videos. All children have experience of using SeeSaw within school and should be able to navigate the app quite well. Could you please try to access the SeeSaw app tonight and send a wee message to let us know that it is working for you. Thanks.

Week 1 – week beginning 23rd March 2020.

Week 2 – week beginning 30th March 2020.

Easter holidays 6th to 17th April 2020

Week 3 – week beginning 20th April 2020.

Week 4 – week beginning 27th April 2020.

If necessary, the next four-week pack will be available on Friday 1st May 2020. We will advise nearer the time as to how to collect the packs. In the meantime, we will be working on more online and distance learning options.

The Staff has worked very hard to put together the education packs; I would like to thank each one of them for their commitment, dedication and professionalism, not only at this time, but every day, as they strive to do their best for every child in our wee school. This whole situation is very unsettling, causing anxiety to everyone within our community. The words of support and encouragement from parents, governors, friends and the wider community have really boosted, encouraged and strengthened the Staff. Thank you.

We will really miss seeing, chatting and laughing with your children on a daily basis, but look forward to reading your messages and seeing pictures on Seesaw of what you are all doing in the days ahead. We are praying for this unprecedented event to be over swiftly so that we may all return to complaining about everyday issues, which now appear insignificant.

Wash your hands, stand well apart and keep safe!

Best wishes, yours sincerely,

DM Hawthorne