Dear Parents/ Guardians,

We hope that you are all safe and well.

Due to the school closure, we at St Helen's JNS have opted to use the **_Seesaw_** platform in our first classes to provide the opportunity for direct communication and feedback between teachers and pupils.

Seesaw is a secure online platform which provides a safe and creative way for children to document their learning while practicing digital literacy skills (https://web.seesaw.me/). Teachers will use this application to set activities (with clear instructions) to complete at home. Pupils are then enabled to share their work with their teacher via a post and receive feedback from them. The **_Seesaw_** application can be used on a computer (PC), tablet or mobile phone.

A unique text code or class QR code will be provided by your child's class teacher which will enable access to your child's own specific Seesaw account. If using the class QR code, children must only ever select their own name when logging in. With this login, the child will only be able to view their own work and the feedback provided by their teacher. It will not be possible to view the work of other pupils in the class.

First class teachers will send out 2 tasks on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. The work assigned each week by teachers is optional and is intended as an additional resource to support and facilitate learning during this difficult time. No one should feel under pressure to download the app or complete every activity assigned. Pupils should complete activities at their own pace, according to their own ability. No new concepts will be introduced on this platform during this time.

For us to enable all the children in first class to use Seesaw, we must use their names to identify any of the work or information they upload (e.g. photos of their work). Seesaw only uses this information as part of the service provided. It does **not** advertise it on the platform, create profiles of pupils or share/sell the children's information. They have strong privacy promises which you can read more about here: https://web.seesaw.me/privacy

We sincerely hope that this platform will be of benefit to the children and they will enjoy using it. We all feel that it is a child friendly, easy-to-use application to operate on while the children continue to engage in learning from home.

Kind regards,

David Shevlin, Carine Natin, Caoimhe Faughnan