

St. Catherine's Primary School

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Download our FREE APP : St Catherines PS,Strabane

Find us on Facebook: StCatherines PrimarySchool

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11th January 2021

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

We were all due to return to school today after the Christmas Break but, as you know, circumstances dictate that we cannot return to school for face to face teaching for another little while. Staff returned today and are working so hard to have work for everyone on the website (for Nursery Pupils) and using Microsoft Teams (for Year 1-7 pupils).

Work has been uploaded for this week on Teams and staff will upload work week by week throughout this lockdown. I was delighted today to see pupils and parents communicating with staff on Teams! Well done! Keep it up!

Further Guidance has been emailed to you today to help you and your child progress even further using Microsoft Teams.

Other Apps available to our little pupils are;

1. MyOn (Years 3-7) where pupils can access digital books online to read! If you have forgotten usernames or passwords just email the teacher or Miss Doherty/ Mrs Wilders.
2. Accelerated Reading (Years 3-7) where pupils can complete quizzes about the books that they have read. If you have forgotten usernames or passwords just email the teacher or Miss Doherty/ Mrs Wilders
3. Mathletics (Nursery – Year 7) where pupils can access Maths Worksheets / Games at different ability levels which are fun and easy to use. As this is a new app for us all, details of this will be emailed out to you all this week.

Teachers will monitor and track pupils accessing Microsoft teams for Remote Learning and track the completion of some allocated pieces of work online every week. Watch out for this and keep in touch with Teams and your teacher! Your teacher will know if you are working on TEAMS so do your best to impress them and show off your skills! Guidance about how



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you can send work to your teacher and how the teacher will give feedback has been emailed to you also. Work can be uploaded to teams (as per guidance) or work can simply be scanned or photographed and emailed to teachers also. Teachers / Vice Principal/ Principal will be available to make contact with you if you are having any difficulties accessing Microsoft Teams or completing the work.

We understand and appreciate that parents have their own work commitments and may supervise learning at various different times of day at home. That said, teachers will understand this and if work is submitted after 3pm on a day, feedback will be given at the earliest possible opportunity over the next 48 hours as per our Remote/ Blended Learning Policy. Please note too, that teachers have to work in school on a rota basis supervising vulnerable pupils and key workers children and on those days will not be available to respond to emails, in this case they will make contact as soon as they can.

If you are experiencing difficulty or have a concern;

1. Email the class teacher or discuss in teams
2. Email Miss Doherty jdoherty742@c2kni.net
3. Email Mrs Wilders bwilders592@c2kni.net
4. **PRIVATE** Message school facebook page

If you communicate your concern in any of these ways your concern will be addressed as soon as is possible!

For those parents who experience difficulty with WIFI / Accessing Teams , Paper Packs will be made available and will be ready for collection from the **JUNIOR SCHOOL ASSEMBLY HALL (Via External Door) this Friday 15th January 2021.**

In order to ensure social distancing and safety the following times have been allocated for collection on Friday 15th January:

Nursery/ Year 1/ Year 2: 10am-10.30am

Year 3/ Year 4 : 10.30am-11am

Year 5/ Year 6 / Year 7: 11am-11.30am

(If you have more than one child, you can pick up packs for all children when you arrive.)

If you are having any difficulty with internet access or devices or if you need to borrow a device [we have a limited number of devices that we can loan], please email

Miss Doherty (Vice Principal/ Head of Home Learning) jdoherty742@c2kni.net

Or Mrs Deery (ICT Leader) cdeery318@c2kni.net

Or Mrs Wilders (Principal) bwilders592@c2kni.net

..... and we will do our very best to support you!



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As we stated before we understand that supervising your child's learning at home is not always easy as children are not as motivated at home as they are in school when they are being taught face to face, however you should remember that this is a global pandemic and you can only do your best. We are hoping that this will only be for a short time and that schools will reopen again soon for normal face to face teaching. We will get through this, help each other out and there will be better days ahead! We will not see each other stuck!!

In the meantime stay safe and God bless

Mrs Bridget Wilders
Principal



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