

St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Mrs Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H.

Junior School
Newtownkennedy St. Site
Strabane
Co.Tyrone
BT82 8HT
Phone:02871382272
Fax:02871 382139



Senior School
Barrack St. Site
Strabane
Co. Tyrone
BT82 8HE
Phone: 02871 382614
Fax: 02871 382482

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net
www.stcatherinesps.co.uk

Download our FREE APP : St Catherines PS,Strabane

Find us on Facebook: StCatherines PrimarySchool

Follow us on Twitter : StCatherinesPS

Follow us on Instagram : St Catherine's Primary School

9th April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The past few weeks have been a time of unprecedented challenge for us all due to the COVID19 pandemic especially our little children who are struggling so hard to try to understand the need for isolation, social distancing and how exactly to stay safe, given that they cannot, at present see their friends in school or meet their staff on a daily basis! This is a change that is quite difficult for our little children who thrive on the social interaction and educational stimulation in the school environment!

Undoubtedly it has been a testing time for you too, engaging in various different Home Learning Strategies; trying to be "all things" ; parent/teacher/ working from or away from home/ cleaning/ cooking/ keeping control of finances/ worrying about family members/ looking after the sick etc. You are to be commended.

Our staff have been amazing also in that, whilst worrying about their own families; they prepared the first Home Learning Packs in remarkable haste and had them distributed to you on 18th and 19th March so that families could prepare for self isolation and foreseeable lockdown to help ensure the safety of all and do our part to control the spread of COVID19. This was a four week learning pack which provided lots of activities for Home Learning until the Easter Holidays. As you are aware our Easter Holidays are from Friday 10th April until Sunday 19th April (inclusive). School was due to open again on Monday 20th April.



Eco Flag Award Winner 2016



Northern Ireland's leading local cancer charity

Gold Award Winner 2019

The first learning pack that you were given will be complete by then. In the meantime staff have been working “flat out” at home to prepare a **SECOND HOME LEARNING** pack for 6 WEEKS which you will be able to access on the **PARENTS HOME LEARNING AREA** of our website (www.stcatherinesps.co.uk) . We will text you the **PASSWORD** to access this area just after **EASTER**. There will be a clear timetable for work here for every year group and lots of downloadable worksheets, links to apps, games, learning videos and so much more support. There will even be a little surprise from staff for our little pupils in here too, as staff miss our little children so much indeed. More information about this will be texted to you so do not worry!

In the meantime though, it is **EASTER**. It is a time to relax, take stock, make family time really quality time for the duration of the holidays and simply enjoy each other. Turn off computers, put away the Home Learning Packs for now and take time out just to chill. Better days will come...we just need to work through this together and we will get there. There is a little poem on the next page which might help you laugh and relax going into the Easter Break!

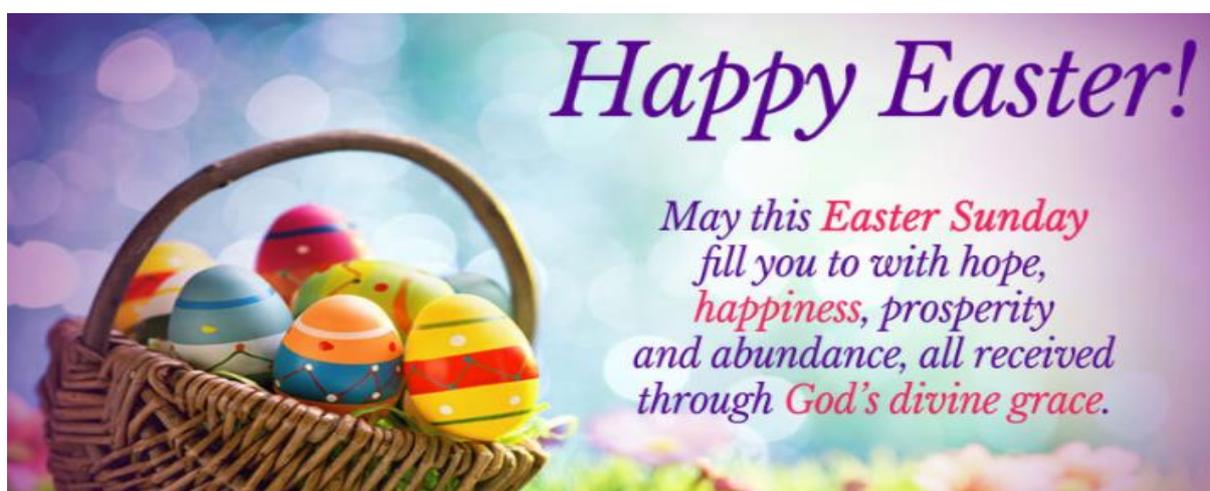
We all send big hugs and special Easter Blessings to our little pupils (we miss you so much!) and hope that the Easter Bunny can bring something a little special for Easter Sunday!

We wish you all a Happy, Holy Easterstay safe, keep well, stick together, pray together and help each other.

We will be in touch with you from Monday 20th April onwards and our **HOME LEARNING AREA** of our website will be **LIVE** and ready to access from **WEDNESDAY 22nd April**.

God bless you all, miss you all so much,

Mrs. B. Wilders, Governors and Staff of
St. Catherine’s Nursery and Primary School

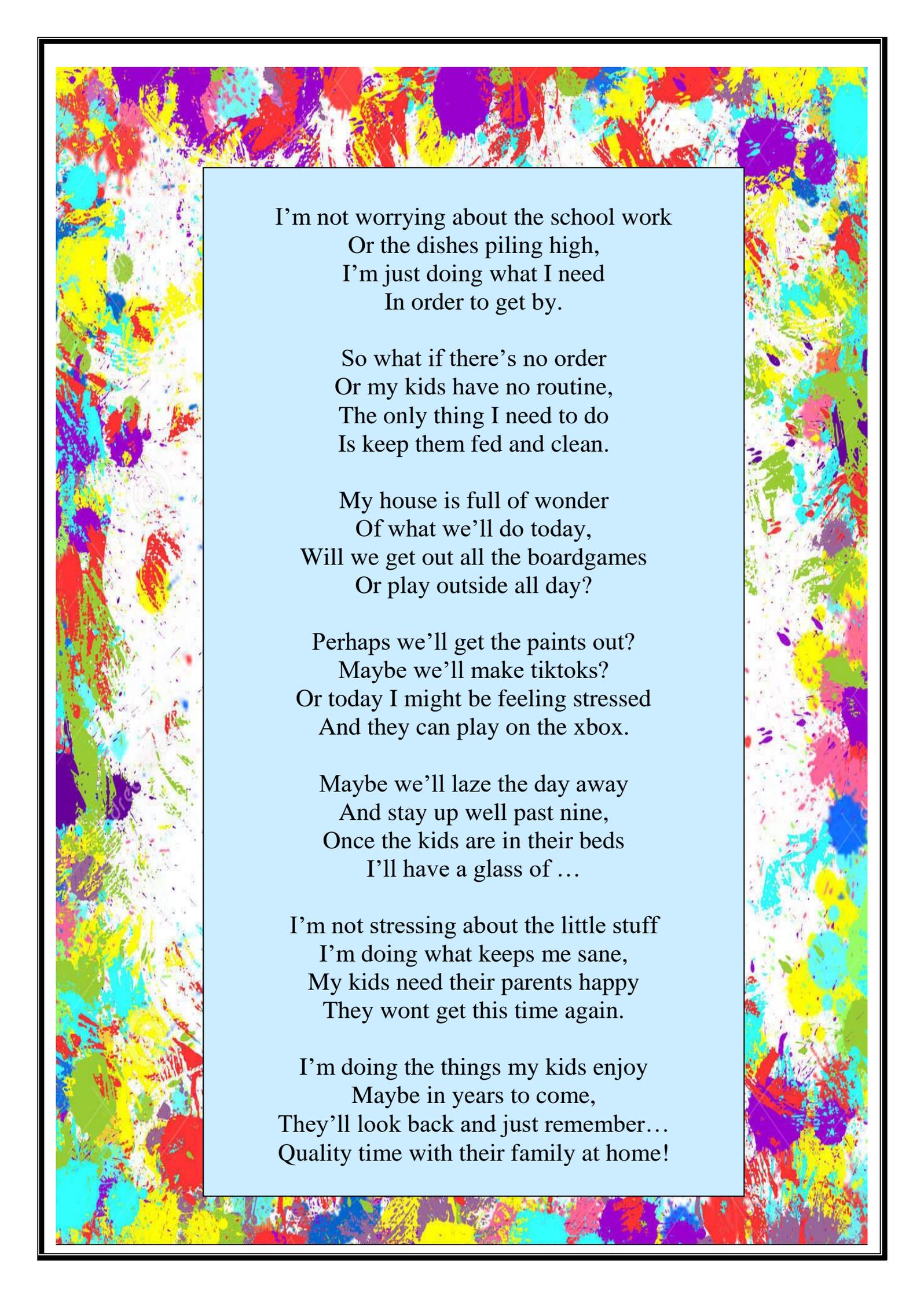


Eco Flag Award Winner 2016



Northern Ireland's leading local cancer charity

Gold Award Winner 2019



I'm not worrying about the school work
Or the dishes piling high,
I'm just doing what I need
In order to get by.

So what if there's no order
Or my kids have no routine,
The only thing I need to do
Is keep them fed and clean.

My house is full of wonder
Of what we'll do today,
Will we get out all the boardgames
Or play outside all day?

Perhaps we'll get the paints out?
Maybe we'll make tiktoks?
Or today I might be feeling stressed
And they can play on the xbox.

Maybe we'll laze the day away
And stay up well past nine,
Once the kids are in their beds
I'll have a glass of ...

I'm not stressing about the little stuff
I'm doing what keeps me sane,
My kids need their parents happy
They wont get this time again.

I'm doing the things my kids enjoy
Maybe in years to come,
They'll look back and just remember...
Quality time with their family at home!