



Knockanes National School, Headford, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93HX80.
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8th January 2021

Dear parents and guardians,

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope that you and your families had a peaceful and healthy Christmas.

As you are aware, the Department of Education has instructed schools to remain closed for the month of January and for remote learning to commence from next Monday the 11th January.

Having consulted with staff this morning, and having reviewed our remote learning plan, I wish to make you aware of the following arrangements so that we can begin learning from home again from Monday next:

- **Book Collection:** Books and learning resources can be collected **tomorrow, Saturday 9th January**, from **3:00 – 4:00pm** from the school.

Please go to the classroom of your oldest child to collect books for all siblings

Ms Fenton: Please enter through top gate beside neighbouring field. Books to be collected from emergency exit door from Ms Fenton's room at field-side of the school.

Ms Fogarty/ Mr O Connor: Please enter through pupil gate/up front ramp. Books to be collected from 'porch door' exit from classroom.

Ms K O Sullivan: Please enter through pupil gate/up front ramp. Books to be collected from main school front door beside the office.

If you have any difficulty collecting books please let us know by email/ phone and we can arrange drop off/ collection at a later time. Please only come to school if you are healthy, symptom-free and not restricting your movements in any way. We ask you to adhere to social distancing guidelines at all times.

- **Online Learning:** This will recommence from Monday next. Class teachers will email a weekly workbank for each class in advance of Monday each week. This will give an overview of work for the week ahead. Teachers will be available on SeeSaw from 9:20am – 3:00pm daily. Teachers will continue to assign activities from the textbooks, on SeeSaw and will upload teaching videos on SeeSaw to help pupils understand more difficult concepts and lesson points. Pupils/parents are welcome to upload work at any time that is suitable for your own circumstances.

Should any of you not have access to technology, making it difficult for you to access SeeSaw or email online, please let me know and we will try our best to assist you if at all possible.

- **Communication:** Should you wish to contact your child's class teacher you are welcome to do so by email using the class emails that have been in use since September.

Ms Fenton:456knockanes@gmail.com

Mr O Connor:123knockanesns@gmail.com

Ms K O Sullivan:infantsknockanes@gmail.com

General inquiries can be made to school email: knockanesnationalschool@gmail.com

Or by ringing School Mobile: **089/2263606**

We hope that this school closure will be short-lived and that we will all return to school safely again very soon. The staff and I are extremely conscious that all families are experiencing challenges adapting again to this new 'lockdown'. Some of you or your families may be ill or isolating, others may be caring for relatives and family members, many will be working from home for the foreseeable future. Therefore, we would like to reassure you that the weekly email and SeeSaw activities that we set are to provide structure and routine for the pupils and in no way to add further pressures or stress to your household or family life. Please view these templates as a 'menu of work' where you chose what school work you feel is best for your child(ren) to cover. While we, as teachers, will try our absolute best to teach, support and assist remotely, online learning will not replace the face-to-face teaching and learning that has taken place since September. We will continue to work together to make the best of this extremely difficult situation for all, prioritising our own well-being, health and safety and that of our families.

I wish you and your families all the best for the remainder of the month of January.

Take care and stay safe,

Lucy O Sullivan

(Principal)