



Parteen National School

Parteen

Co. Clare

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Principal: Gerard Ruane

Deputy Principal: Mairéad Guckian

School Community Newsletter

April 20th 2020

Extended Closure

As we are sure you are aware by now, the Minister of Education has stated schools will remain closed until further notice.

We sincerely hope that you are keeping as well as can be expected and that you are keeping in mind our guidance from our last newsletter. In summary, it is our responsibility to provide learning activities but they are optional for you to complete. We know the pressures you are facing. When we reopen, we will be starting from where we left off and the children will be fine educationally. Families are all under plenty of stress without parents and guardians trying to be a teachers. If you can do a little of the activities we provide, great. If not, don't worry.

Sacraments

As you are aware, Confirmation was due to take place in May and obviously will not go ahead on the date planned. We look forward to being able to host Confirmation in the future and will issue you with information on this whenever we know more. Communion was also due to take place in May. This is also postponed until further notice. Ms. Neylon and Ms. Sheahan have put the prayers and song lyrics for the ceremony in their list of learning activities, as well as links to the songs so they can sing along at home. Please see the letter from Bishop Leahy posted in the Newsletter Section.

Sanitisers

When schools reopen, there will be a major rush on ordering hand sanitisers from all schools. We have managed to source a supplier and are placing an order for 30 bottles with a company

who is getting them in stock this week. When we do reopen, hand washing will continue to be a priority and the sanitisers will be for back-up and convenience.

Learning Activities

Thank you to all class teachers who have provided optional learning activities for the next two weeks. They are all available on our website in the Newsletter Section. We will continue to do this in two week blocks.

Twitter

We continue to publish 'Tweets' each day with fun learning resources and activities.

Emails

We are setting up email accounts for each class teacher so that if you have a specific query on work provided or need some specific advice for your child, you will be able to ask the class teacher via email. We are setting this up through Google and it takes 14 days for them to verify our details. We will publish the emails in 14 days' time. This email will only be for specific questions and/ or advice on learning for your child.

Support Lessons

Many children in our school attend lessons with our support teachers. As there are so many groups, it would be too complicated to put learning activities for each group on the website. Therefore, if your child attends lessons with any of our support teachers, please email the support teacher at the relevant email below and they will provide some guidance on learning to you. If you email one of these support teachers, it is specifically so they have your email address to send you guidance on work.

mscarey@parteenschool.ie

msmeskell@parteenschool.ie

msquilty@parteenschool.ie

msguckian@parteenschool.ie

msparkinson@parteenschool.ie

msorourke@parteenschool.ie

msodonovan@parteenschool.ie

Contact Us

You can also email us (Ger and Mairéad) at parteprincipal@gmail.com if you have any queries or need any specific advice.

Reduction in Classroom Supplies Money

We are going to reduce the fee for classroom supplies for all classes by €15 for the next school year given the time missed in school and the pressure families are under.

Swimming Refund

As swimming for 4th and 5th was cancelled after two lessons but you paid €38, we will reduce the classroom supplies fees by a further €25 for both groups of children next year.

Graduation

6th Class parents may be particularly concerned if we do not get to reopen this school year, given their children will be moving to secondary school. Please bear in mind that all 6th class pupils nationally are in the same boat so it will be a level playing field. We look forward to hosting graduation ceremony whenever that may be.

Core Subjects

All parents and guardians should also note that typically, by Easter, the vast majority of the curriculum in the core subjects is complete and teachers are moving onto revision and testing. All parents and guardians should also note that the Easter to summer term involves a lot of activity – class tours, sports day, matches, events etc. These are hugely important and it is a great pity that children are missing them. We are just noting this should you be worried about academics.

Kind regards,

Ger and Mairéad