

ST FRANCIS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
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19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

COVID19: School Closures

As we face into the full rigours of Covid19 and the closure of schools for a considerable time, these are indeed times of unprecedented challenges. We would like to thank you for your perseverance and support to date as we, as a society, were left frustrated at the lack of decisiveness on the part of government.

The decision to close schools has been made and all schools will close tomorrow afternoon. The school will be open tomorrow for pupils, but we do accept that many parents will be reluctant to send their children to school. To assist you with the education of your children, our staff have prepared Support Packs which will be given to the pupils tomorrow in school. There is sufficient work for several weeks and links to online resources which may be beneficial. Our advice is that you try to establish a daily routine and that some work is done each week day preferably in the mornings. The work has not been issued to stress either the child or the parent and each day should include a variety of formal learning and also fun and practical activities including outdoor games, board games, walks, chores, etc. We all have additional responsibilities in these unforeseen times, children too should know that they must play their part in continuing their learning but also in showing responsibility in their own home.

If you/your children are unable to attend school, packs will be available to collect from the assembly hall as follows:

1:00pm	Primary 1 & 2 (and older siblings)
1:30pm	Primary 3 & 4 (and older siblings)
2:00pm	Primary 5 - 7

To reduce the risk of possible contamination, children will be asked to go straight to their classes tomorrow morning where they will be met by a teacher or assistant. Parents/guardians are asked to drop their children off and not to linger around the school. Break time and lunch time will be staggered and children will be seated apart within the classrooms where possible.

On behalf of the staff and governors I would like to thank you for your patience and support through these challenging times and pray that the whole school family is spared the worst effects of COVID19. Additional information will be issued via the school app and the website. If you have any queries both Mrs Trainor and I can be contacted at dmcnally516@c2kni.net or ktrainor808@c2kni.net. Keep safe and God bless.

Yours sincerely

Donal McNally
(Principal)