

St. Patrick's Primary School Aughadarragh Augher, Co.Tyrone BT77 OET Tel: 028 8554 8472 Email:info@stpatricks.aughadarragh.ni.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well in these very challenging times. As you will have heard through the media, we now face another period of extended closure and remote learning. Remote Learning will be delivered via Google Classroom, an E-Learning platform which allows teachers to keep in contact with pupils and schedule the teaching and learning activities. We have been preparing for this by giving pupils the opportunity to familiarise themselves with Google Classroom during the first term.

To assist with remote learning, teachers will provide work packs for your child. Work packs are currently being finalised and will be available to collect in school on Friday 8th January between 1pm and 3pm. Each child can collect their work pack from the front entrance of the school, to avoid parents having to congregate within the school building.

To avoid loss of our reading books, all reading books and library books should be returned to the class teacher at this time before new ones can be allocated.

We would encourage parents to keep in contact with the class teacher via Google Classroom and to ensure that your child is completing their online work. Please be mindful that if you send messages to the staff in the evening these will be replied to the next day.

If you are having technical difficulties or do not have the equipment your child needs to access school work please contact the staff via the school email address or by telephone.

In order to stop the rapid spread of Covid-19 through our school community, DE has directed that all schools are to remain closed and for remote learning to take place. DE guidance states that limiting attendance of pupils and staff at school is about reducing the number of contacts that all of us have with people in other households. Therefore, the safest course of action for all pupils and staff is to keep your child at home if at all possible, to try and contain the spread of the virus within our community. However, Peter Weir has asked schools to provide supervision to the children of Key Workers and for Vulnerable Children. If you require this provision in the coming weeks, please email the school giving the details of which days you require help on and we will try to support you depending on what staff we have available. Please be mindful that this should only be requested when absolutely necessary as the safest place for your child to be at the moment is at home.

Supervision can only be provided; children will not be taught but will be supervised to complete work tasks just the same as those children who are at home.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me using the school email or by telephone. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with our pupils remotely until such times when we can all return safely to school.

Kind Regards,

Gemma Quínn