



# St. Mary's Primary School

20 Cloughcor Road, Ballymagorry, Strabane, Co. Tyrone. BT82 0BE.

Telephone No: 028 7184 1237

Principal: Mrs A Devine

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30<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parent/ Person with Parental Responsibility,

I hope to find you well.

School closed for pupils on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and it is so very hard to believe that five weeks have elapsed and we still aren't back!

As you are aware by now, we received the accolade of a PATHS Model School and I have always provided our parents/ guardians with a PATHS quote to ponder each week. I came upon this one and thought it was so apt considering the current climate we are all living in:

***"If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you".***

We are all feeling challenged and frustrated at the minute and I can only hope and pray that we, like Muhammad Ali once said *"don't count the days, but make the days count"*.

## **Communication Methods**

I have been communicating via our School Text Message Service **Teachers2Parents**, hence it is imperative that I have the correct contact details for everyone.

I have also been posting announcements on our **School Facebook** page and have been signposting our parents/guardians to our School Website **[stmaryspscloughcor.com](http://stmaryspscloughcor.com)**

If you have any queries or questions I would urge you to email our school info account which is [info@stmarys.strabane.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmarys.strabane.ni.sch.uk).

You can also make contact via our website under 'Contact us' if you require support.

## **MySchool – C2K Access**

All pupils were provided with a Home School Pack on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Teachers were asked to provide work to keep pupils working for 10-12 weeks. Packs will finish on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. In this pack, all pupils were given a C2K username and password. This allows pupils to access Shared Folders for his/her year group and the letter in the pack explained how to log in to C2K.

When you gain access you will find that teachers have included little letters for you to read to your child and that work has been supplied for pupils in P1-P7. This is in addition to the packs we provided to you all. It is really important that pupils can access their C2K account. If you are having difficulty, I need you to email the school info account on [info@stmarys.strabane.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmarys.strabane.ni.sch.uk) so that I can enable access for you. Teachers cannot communicate via C2K as it is a separate system and not the same as Google Classroom.

## Google Classroom

It is hoped that we will also set up Google Classroom for most year groups. Pupils will only be able to access this using their C2K Username and password, hence why we need your child to have their C2K username and password, as pupils will hopefully be able to communicate with his/her teacher once set up. I will send you out a text message when the Google Classroom is live for your child and how you can access it.

Again I cannot emphasize enough, the need for the correct mobile contact details, otherwise you will not receive the text messages I am sending out!

### **\*INFORMATION FOR P4-P7 PARENTS ONLY\***

## Accelerated Reading

Class teachers provided pupils with their username and password to access quizzes from home. I'm conscious that you need books to complete the quizzes but Libraries NI are promoting accelerated reading material if you do not have books at home or have exhausted your supply. It is important that you use this exact address <https://ukhosted45.renlearn.co.uk/225293/public/RPM/login> to access the schools accelerated reading site. Pupils then log in using their accelerated reading username and passwords provided in their packs.

DO NOT USE your C2K username and password to access Accelerated Reading. Pupils have been given their own **ACCELERATED Username and Password**. Teachers have set targets for Term 3 and I would urge you to ask your child to ready daily for 10-15 minutes if you can.

## Mathletics

Class teachers have provided pupils with their username and passwords to access Mathletics. I have already sent out a text with a link for you to access Mathletics and information on how to gain access can be found on our school website. Again username and password for Mathletics can be found in the pack provided.

DO NOT USE your C2K Username and Password to access Mathletics. Pupils have been provided with their own **Mathletics USERNAME and PASSWORD**.

## ICT

I have attached a list of useful websites you may wish to access.

## Final Thoughts

It is not my intention to overwhelm or to unnerve you at this time. I want to ensure that you feel that we are here if you need us. We want to engage with you and support you as best we can.

I would like to commend you on the fantastic work you are doing and I would urge you to continue to do what you can. If you can do a bit of work each day please do so, but every family will have their own situation so all you can do is your very best for your own child/children. All that matters is that your child/children are happy and enjoying spending quality time at home with their loved ones and getting opportunities to make special memories together. We should be grateful for this bizarre opportunity!

Please go easy on yourselves and don't feel that you have to provide your child with a 9.00-3.00 timetable every day. Do what you can and stay safe. There is joy and wonder everywhere when you see the world through the eyes of a child. Let your child guide you, take their lead as their emotional wellbeing is paramount and will get them through the weeks ahead.

Over the years, I have thanked our parents at our school assemblies for entrusting us with your child/children. We now entrust your child/children into your care and ask you to look after all our very special heroes until we meet up again so that we can all inspire success together.

Please stay safe everyone and remember that these unprecedented times will come to an end and never underestimate the powers of prayers, and faith. Together we will shine again.

All we can do is take one day at a time.

Yours sincerely,



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**Mrs Andrea Devine**  
**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

