



26th March 2020

Dear parents,

I hope you are all in good health and keeping yourselves safe in these uncertain times.

I am writing to inform you that unfortunately we are not in a position to open safely as a skeleton school for pupils. Firstly, as a small school, there are too many staff members who find themselves in the at risk group, and are therefore unable to help with opening the school. Secondly, the necessary Personal Protective Equipment, masks and essential hygiene products have not been sourced for us. Closing the school, we feel, is the most responsible way to protect the health and well-being of all our pupils and our staff.

Boris Johnston has stated on Monday evening, there are to be no unnecessary journeys and everyone to stay at home. As a school we wish to emphasise that message to keep everyone safe. He has asked us to only leave home for essential shopping, medical needs and exercise. Public gathering of more than two people are banned and maintaining social distancing is essential.

To enable our children to continue their learning, a final learning pack will be distributed to all children over the weekend. This should provide some additional resources for each child. Any parent of a child in Primary 6 who would like to receive a pack of transfer tests should inform Mrs Gribbin through Seesaw, once you get your child's QR code.

We have included a QR code for each child to log into a remote learning site called 'Seesaw'. We have been using this in school for a short while and the children should be quite familiar with it. This will be our method of setting learning tasks for each class in the coming weeks. Staff are only starting to use it in this capacity - so please be patient as this is all new to us as well. Children should complete tasks and upload them to their Seesaw account. Staff will be able to see completed work and set additional tasks.

The Seesaw app will allow the pupils to communicate with their teacher and continue some sense of normality. I appreciate this is not ideal, but in the current climate we feel it is the best way to keep everyone safe.

Our school website has a new page under the 'Parents' tab called 'Learning Resources'. On here is a list of websites to help with home learning. I appreciate some are not suitable for all children but hopefully you will find some useful sites for your child. This list will continue to grow.

There are a huge amount of free ideas out here to keep children entertained. From the 30 day Lego challenge, to Joe Wicks daily workout for kids at 9.00 each morning.

We hope everyone remains fit and healthy and we cannot wait until the school opens again and the children are back in.

Many thanks,

Seamus Scullion  
Principal

Aidan Bradley  
Chair of Board of Governors