



'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 12th June 2020

No. 32

Message from Mr McMahon

Good morning boys and girls, mums and dads,
I did not think when lockdown began that I would be sitting here, on the 12th June, writing the Friday note as Acting Principal of St. Joseph's P.S. I also did not think that I would be saying, "Hello," for the first time without meeting any of you. With that in mind, I will send you a short video from the school later so that you can put a face to the name, as it were! I might even ask Mrs Fleming to join me!

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been fortunate enough to be able to visit the school and meet many people. I have been able to see the quality of work being produced across the key stages and I was able to meet our Board of Governors via Zoom. All that remains is meet the most important people...our pupils!

I would also like to wish Mr Murray the best of luck in his new role in St Mary's P.S. Newcastle.

Restart arrangements

There is much chat in the media about restart arrangements. At present, no significant guidance has been provided to schools. A working group has been set up and they are looking at international models and possible scenarios for September. We are keeping abreast of all developments and will keep you informed. We hope that there will be definite guidance by the end of June. The school staff are also drawing up our own plans in the interim, in conjunction with local schools. We are aware of your anxiety - it mirrors our own. All I can do is promise open communication as and when I have information.

P1 Induction Arrangements

We are looking forward to welcoming parents in Miss Hearty and Mrs McManus' classes next Tuesday and Wednesday when they come to pick up their P1 Induction Packs.

Tuesday 16th June – Miss Hearty (9am-1pm)

Wednesday 17th June – Mrs McManus (9am-1pm)

The P1 team are busy compiling something special for you all so keep an eye on your email inbox!

Reporting to Parents

Reports have been posted out today. If you have not received your child's annual report by Monday 22 June, please email Mrs Fleming at pfleming930@c2kni.net to let her know.

Text Book Drop-Off and Exercise Book Collection

As part of our end of year procedures, it is necessary for us to collect all text books, library books etc that may be at home with you at this time. These books may have been sent home for home learning or you may have reading books and/or library books already at home.

We have listed the books that each year group has at home in the table below. In order to ensure social distancing, we have allocated a certain day and time for each class. Please return the books on your allocated day.

Staff will be on hand to collect these books in the assembly hall. You will also be able to pick up any exercise books belonging to your child on this day as well.

Year Group	Text Books	Drop Off Time
Primary 3	New Treasury of English 1 (PINK BOOK) Collins Practice in the Basic Skills (ENGLISH) Blue Book	Monday 22 June Miss Clarke's class 9am – 11am Mrs Gould's class 11.30am – 1.30pm
Primary 7	The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	Tuesday 23 June Mrs O'Hare's Class 9am – 11am Mrs McCambridge's Class 11.30am – 1.30pm
Primary 4	Complete English	Wednesday 24 June Mrs Connolly's Class 9am – 11am



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	Maths New Wave Collins English 2	Mrs Hanna's Class 11.30am – 1.30pm
Primary 5	Both classes Text Books Collins Maths 2 and 3 Collins English 2 and 3 New Wave Maths Primary 4 and Primary 5 New Wave English 3rd and 4th class Photocopied Booklets Schofield and Sims Times Tables Schofield and Sims Mental Maths Collins Mental Maths Ms Kitt's class only Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (NOVEL) Ms Gorman's class only Matilda (NOVEL)	Thursday 25 June Ms Kitt's Class 9am – 11am Mrs Gorman's Class 11.30am – 1.30pm
P6	Mrs Fleming's Class only Letters from the Lighthouse (NOVEL) Mrs Gartland's Class only Journey to the River Sea (NOVEL)	Friday 26 June Mrs Fleming's Class 9am – 11am Mrs Gartland's Class 11.30am – 1.30pm

P1 and P2

If you have any reading books or library books belonging to the school can these be dropped off at school on **Monday 29 June between 9am and 2pm**. Thank you

Reading Books/Library Books Amnesty

If you have any reading books/library books belonging to the school, please leave them back to school in the coming weeks. It is so important that we have all our books returned for our pupils next year. Thank you.

Update on each Year group

P7

Last week Primary Seven had great fun researching their family trees, reading a variety of biographies and writing their very own auto biographies. Some children had fun making a time capsule and some even buried these in their gardens (there was even a St. Joseph's tie in one!). We had some fantastic short videos submitted and Power Point presentations on inspirational people. We will add some more to our home learning section.

This week is 'Refugee Week' so we will be looking at the reasons why some people leave their countries and the valuable contributions they make in the world. We will be linking this into 'Black Lives Matter' and researching some influential people who have fought for human rights.

P6

This week Primary 6 “dipped their toes” into the new world of Google Classroom. It was tentative steps at first but nearly all the children have now joined their online classroom. The highlight of the week was our year group discussion on Wednesday. We watched a Newsround report on children from around the world and their experiences of lockdown. Our Primary 6 pupils were able to explore these experiences and compare them to their own. The discussion was really successful. We are looking forward to more of these in the weeks to come!



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P5

This week Primary Five have continued to work with enthusiasm on our Egyptian topic. We have loved seeing photos of your experiments and art! Remember to check Fronter for details of our ICT task and to upload it when you are finished! We have finished our topic of money and next week we will be putting our knowledge and skills into practice by completing a CCEA task. Ms Kitt and Mrs Gorman are so proud of the independence you are all showing in your learning. We have now finished our class novels but know that you all are reading independently every day and encourage this over the next few months. We have suggested Oxford Owl on our overview for free ebooks and the NI libraries app is excellent also.

P4

Last week in Primary 4 we had party planners-this week they are bakers. The pupils have been looking at recipes and finding the recipe to make their favourite cake. They have not only written out the recipes using imperatives, looked at the quantities needed and measured the amount out but they have been busy in the kitchen making them.

The scavenger hunt this week was also in the kitchen where the pupils were looking at different weights of items and then ordering them.

In Literacy this week we have continued to work on comprehension skills. The pupils have studied the features of letter writing and written their own letters to friends.

Watching Ms Gorman's workshops on shadows, lighthouses and bubbles resulted in some amazing pieces.

We continue to have success on Lexia with some pupils now on their last level.

Mrs Hanna and Mrs Connolly continue to be so impressed with the high standard of work that the pupils are completing on a daily basis.

P3

We've come to the end of another super week of home learning in P3. This week we continued to learn more about our topic of animals. The children were learning about zoo animals and their shared story was the eBook 'Who's at the Zoo?' We received some fantastic comprehension tasks and book reviews on the story! We also had an animal reading room, where the children could listen to, and watch different stories about animals. The children were also busy writing riddles to describe zoo animals. Miss Clarke and Mrs Gould loved trying to guess which animal the children were describing in the videos that were sent to them on SeeSaw - great work! Our P3 superstar mathematicians were hard at work again learning about division. This week they were learning about the grouping strategy. The children also put on their problem solving hats to work out the mystery of the missing macaws at Belfast Zoo - great fun! Some beautiful symmetrical butterflies were made on SeeSaw too. Ms Gorman made us another art video to show us how to make animals that camouflage and we had fun making our own! We also joined the NewsDesk hour again on Wednesday to read the next Wee Critters article. Some of us left comments to tell Alan about what we had learnt. Brilliant work P3 - your teachers are very proud of you!

P2

The children in P2 have had another exciting week in their learning at home journey. They continued to develop their writing skills by creating and describing their own disgusting sandwich for The Lighthouse Keeper, Mr Grinling...the children really challenged themselves to make the sandwiches as unappealing as possible and we are pleased to announce they succeeded...we would not want to eat them at all! In number they learned all about halving amounts of even sets and counting amounts to 20p...to buy yummy ice creams at the seaside! They also learned about how a trip to the seaside now is very different to the seaside in the past and sorted images into past, present or both. Well done everyone, another wonderful week and we are so proud of you all!

P1

Yet another exciting week in P1! We have been continuing our 'Summer and Growing' topic and looked this week at how seeds grow. We shared the story 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle and even learned about the author / illustrator and how he created his beautiful books. We are going to give some of his collage art a go so look out for our Eric Carle inspired



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artwork! The children have been so excited to learn about flowers and plants even in their own gardens! We combined ICT and our topic by setting a nature photo challenge and the children sent us their best photographs they had taken themselves! Future photographers and horticulturists in the making! We also have been working on our independent writing and learning our number bonds to 10. We are so proud of all our boys and girls and we really appreciate all the support from mums and dads too. Keep the videos and photos coming in. We can't believe how much you have grown - we miss you so much!

Creative Voices

Its been another splendid week of Home Learning with Creative Voices. Some pupils continued working on their personal development and social skills. Some of them on self esteem creative work and some made paper fortune tellers. Not the kind that tell your fortune, but the kind that help you understand BIG feelings and emotions.

Ms Gorman loved seeing your warrior drawings, where you depicted yourself as a strong capable person, highlighting all your strengths and qualities. Other children listened to music and let their creativity flow in response. What a great way to relax.

Lots more creative ideas and activities were posted on see saw and new art and design videos are available on the school website. Don't forget to check it out every week for updates. You are such an artistic bunch, please keep sending us pictures of your masterpieces

Well done every one of you, you are doing an amazing job.

Ms T Gorman

School Uniform

Just a reminder of our suppliers for our school uniform. Our school uniform is available from Mc Call's in Lisburn. Mc Call's have informed us that items are all available on their website: mccallsoflisburn.com They will be giving 20% discount on school uniform in June and July and their phone lines are open for any questions you may have regarding the uniform. Mc Call's are hoping to be re-opening the store very soon.

PE Uniform

Our PE uniform is available from McCalls and O' Neill's in Kennedy Centre when normal shopping resumes. It consists of a polo shirt, half zip and track bottoms. Children in the infant end of the school may wear the polo shirt with navy blue bottoms along with their school jumper on PE days. The polo shirt can also be purchased from Mc Call's and the navy blue bottoms can be purchased from Tesco's/Dunnes/Marks and Spencers etc.



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