



Whitehead

Primary School
& Nursery Unit

'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'

Dear Parent/Guardian

I'm sure that you are fully aware that all schools in Northern Ireland will close on Friday 20 March for an indefinite period of time. As a school we wish you all well. This has been a very surreal week for us all. Thank you for your patience, understanding and the numerous messages of encouragement and support. I also want to publicly thank our staff, who as I knew they would, have responded to this challenge in an exceptionally professional, supportive and passionate manner.

Life will be very different for everyone over the next few months. Some parents have asked for a timetable but that is very difficult given how everyone's day and week will vary. Some parents may be at home full time, some may be working from home and some may be required to go into work. **I would encourage you to develop a daily and weekly timetable.** Identify somewhere in the house where the children can complete academic activities. They will require times when they are focussed on their work, have quiet reading time, when they are undertaking creative activities, playing board games, baking, doing household chores (age appropriate) and enjoying being outdoors (as permitted by the government). I would encourage you to have **set times** when they can enjoy TV, use an iPad/mobile for social purposes or play on the Xbox/Nintendo etc.

Someone said, "Despite the terrible circumstances, let's consider this time together as families as a rare gift. Play games, bake cookies and work on projects you never had time for. Teach your children kindness and show them how to endure difficult circumstances."

For Y1-Y7 we have sent home packs of work for each child which you should use in Week 1 (Monday 23 March) & Week 2 (Monday 30 March). If you haven't collected your child's pack yet they are still available in the foyer. **Should you have any questions or queries please use the Seesaw app to contact the teachers (Monday – Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm).**

We will then have two weeks off for the Easter holidays when you could use some of the websites which I have suggested. **I would really appreciate it if you could refrain from contacting any of the teachers at the weekends or during the Easter holidays.**

In Week 3 (Monday 20 April) teachers will begin to upload mini tutorials and/or tasks to Seesaw on a daily basis. Activities will be uploaded the evening before they are to be completed. This is so that you can plan your day. Teachers will be available from 9.00am the next morning if you have any questions or queries. I have outlined below what you might expect on a daily and weekly basis. **Work with your child allowing them to complete the tasks and mark it with them. We DON'T require ALL of the completed work to be uploaded to Seesaw (this could slow down the system or cause it to crash). TEACHERS WILL HIGHLIGHT WHICH TASKS REQUIRE A RESPONSE!** We will really miss seeing your children on a daily basis and we will look forward to reading their responses.

The teachers will upload tutorials and/or tasks on a daily basis until we are allowed to return to school.

If you need to contact me, please use the email address info@whitehead.whitehead.ni.sch.uk I will check it on a daily basis (Monday-Friday). **If I can ever be of any practical help during the next few months, please don't hesitate to ask and if you know of an older person who requires help please contact me! As a school we are linking up with Storehouse in order to support the local community.**

I hope that you will all keep safe over the next few months and I think that even the children might be excited about getting back to school when we are allowed to! I know that I will!!!! **Keep safe & SHINE, Mr Loughins**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y1	Phonics Literacy Numeracy	Phonics Literacy Numeracy WAU	Phonics Literacy Numeracy	Phonics Literacy Numeracy WAU	Phonics Literacy Numeracy
Y2	Tricky Words or Spellings Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Tricky Words or Spellings Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU Task	Tricky Words or Spellings Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Tricky Words or Spellings Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU Task	Tricky Words or Spelling Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task
Y3	Spelling Activities Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spelling Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU
Y4	Spelling Activities Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings & Tables Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings & Tables Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spellings & Tables Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings & Tables Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU
Y5	Spelling Activities Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spelling Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task
Y6	Spelling Activities Mental Arithmetic Transfer Test WAU	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Transfer Test WAU	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spelling Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task
Y7	Spelling Activities Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task	Spellings Mental Arithmetic Literacy Task Numeracy Task WAU	Spelling Test Literacy Task Numeracy Task