



18th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your messages of support, the staff and I appreciate it.

Home Learning Packs are now available to collect from the Derryvolgie Hall. These packs are in no way aimed to replace the learning that would normally take place in school. However, it is hoped that parents will find the material enclosed, a helpful way to reinforce key learning. This pack should be used over the next couple of weeks and where text books have been provided I would ask that you keep them somewhere safe and return to school when the closure ends.

I will keep parents informed via text message when further material is uploaded either to the website or other online learning platforms. I feel it would not be helpful to send home 16 weeks of worksheets! Staff are giving recommendations and will set tasks of interest for the children so as to avoid putting pressure on parents. I am aware that a number of parents will be 'working from home' and trying to care for children at the same time, so it is important to get the balance right, as we head into uncharted waters.

Whilst school remains open for now, I would ask you to consider the advice given by Government earlier this week, in particular, social distancing, avoiding social venues, doing what you can to limit social contact with others, self-isolating if running a fever or have a cough. The Department of Education's decision to have schools open, does not support or help this strategy at all.

With this in mind and taking into consideration the health of all in the school community, I would ask you to consider keeping your children at home and make use of the Home Learning Packs provided. School will remain open until advised to close by the DE, therefore any parents who are unable to keep children at home or who wish to, can send their children into school as normal.

Kind regards,

Mary Rose Quinn

REMINDER: School will be closed for a Staff Development Day on Monday, 23rd March therefore no children should attend.

