

Lusk S.N.S.



S.N.S. Lusca

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and that all your families are safe and healthy. It is at times like this that we realise the most important things in life, the health and wellbeing of our families and friends.

The government has announced the extended closure of schools until the 19th of April, in effect one more school week until the Easter holidays. We as a school have been examining different ways to support our parents, pupils and staff to ensure the pupils still have some links with school and structure in their day. The Board of Management has met 'remotely' and have agreed that the priority is to ensure that we keep supporting families as best we can while doing our best not to add to the stress families are already experiencing. We are aware that many parents have lost their jobs while others are struggling to work from home while caring for children and perhaps elderly relatives.

Our teachers are working to put together a homework plan for the coming weeks which we will put on the website. It will be a simple plan that all children should be able to follow but you as parents are the best judges of stress levels at home and of course if you want to reduce the work that is your call. We would ask the children to spend no more than 40 minutes on the work in 3rd/4th class or 60 minutes on the work in 5th/6th class. We will also provide some optional work/independent activities that children can participate in should they find themselves at a loose end.

If parents have any queries about the work, or your child needs particular help, please email the class teacher at the dedicated email addresses below and put your email FAO the relevant teacher in the subject bar - 3rdclass@luskns.ie, 4thclass@luskns.ie, 5thclass@luskns.ie and 6thclass@luskns.ie and specialeducation@luskns.ie

Please remember that this is not 'home schooling' which would involve full time parental supervision. That is unrealistic and far too difficult. This is at best 'distance learning' that has never been trialed before in Irish primary schools. It is an effort to help families maintain some structure and support family wellbeing. Don't allow it to become a stressor, just ask the children to do their best and we will take it from there.

The plans we put in place now will be reviewed and amended as the weeks go on in the light of feedback from parents and staff and advice we receive from the Department of Education.

For any general queries please email office@lusksns.ie and we will respond as soon as possible.

I want to wish all our school community the very best and look forward to seeing all the children as soon as the government allow. In the meantime I would ask everyone in our school community to keep following the advice of the experts in the HSE, follow social distancing guidelines, remember to wash our hands regularly and follow good cough etiquette. We hope that everyone, pupils, parents and staff stay safe, healthy and well in the coming weeks.

Best Regards,

Paul Comiskey, Principal, Lusk SNS.