



Pupil Information

6th April 2020



Each week I'll pick a photo from my iPad to help you look back and remember what your life was like when the photo was taken – even if you are not in it. This week's image is of the first day of school in September 2019. Who would have guessed that the year would have turned out so differently than all the others! Hope you are taking care and being kind – to yourself as well.



Read! Read! Read!

Well done to all our Y4-7 Accelerated Reading Winners! Check out who they are by clicking on your class in the **Home Learning section** of our website. We have asked your parents to help remind you to read every day. Why don't you talk to an adult and decide how much you should read every day? Then you could design a reward chart and give yourself a star for every day that you read meet your target!

Celebrating Easter Together

Magherafelt Parish needs your help!

Here is a chance for all the Children of our Parish to be part of our Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services. Use your imagination to paint, draw or colour in a picture for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. You could even use some of your Easter work from school. Visit **Magherafelt Parish** Facebook page, leave a comment with your name and attach a photo of your masterpiece for each day. We will print the artwork and display on the Sanctuary for the Easter Webcam Services on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. They will also be displayed on a notice board on this page. All entries should be submitted by noon on Holy Thursday 9th April. **Happy drawing. Fr John & Fr Des.**

Principal's Pupil's Awards!

Each week at assembly we celebrate what we are proud of – things you have worked hard on and that are an example to others in the school. This week, it's your turn to choose! I'd like you to pick someone in your house and give them an award. You need to design a certificate and write a reason why they deserve your award. Then why not send me a photo? I'd love to see it!



The Future

What's going to happen First Confession & Communion? And what about Confirmation? We are not sure yet ourselves but *know* they will be very special. In fact, Y4 & 7 are history makers! We will talk about how these classes celebrated these special sacraments differently from every other year. Mrs Scullion, Mr Hasson and I have met (using Zoom). Y4 will receive a First Communion workbook with their packs after Easter. Y7 will continue their preparation for Confirmation as part of their learning packs. With trust in each other, and in God, all will be well again.

Have a lovely Easter. Can't wait to stand at the school doors again!

Until next week, take care. This will pass

Mrs Graffin




Parent Information 6th April 2020

Dear parent/carer

How are you all finding the new normal? I hope you and yours are looking after yourselves and keeping safe. Remember to be kind to yourself also. This week has only 4 school days and then we break for Easter. It's important to make the most of this break. Put the school folders away somewhere safe. Remember to get in touch if you have any queries, concerns, feedback – or even to share your child's work. Thank you all for your *amazing* messages of support. Our staff are working so hard for your children. Take care – this will pass. Until then, look after each other

Mrs Deirdre Graffin *Principal*

 READ 20 MINUTES A DAY		
Student A	Student B	Student C
20 minutes	5 minutes	1 minute
They will read		
1,800,000	282,000	8,000
words per year.		
They will have read for		
851	212	42
hours by P7		
and on standardised tests they will score better than		
90%	50%	10%
of their peers.		

This week's message: Read, Read, Read!

Accelerated Reading awards for Y4-7 have been announced! Check out the message from your class teacher in the Home Learning Section on the website. Well Done!

As we move through these very different days and lessons, we are constantly thinking of issues and areas for improvement. One is our concerns regarding the amount of reading children are doing at home. Some are reading very well. Keep it up! Others are struggling due to lack of motivation, interest, available materials etc. *It is almost impossible to make up for time lost by not reading.* The staff have worked very hard and are providing parents with great advice and support. Check out the new 'Reading during school closure' tab in our Home Learning Section. Here, there is advice for Y1-3 and Y4-7 including finding materials to read online.

COVID-19 Free School Meals Payments. Payments commenced on 30th March and continue fortnightly. Not all payments will be made on the same day and it is expected it will take 10 days for payments to reach all recipients. If you have any queries please email: MealsandUniforms-Omagh@eani.org.uk

Emergency Childcare provision for critical workers: COVID-19 Hub

Critical workers are defined as parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response, including those who work in health and social care and in other key/critical sectors. However, many parents working in these critical sectors will be able to ensure their child is kept at home. The latest advice from DE & PHA is:

Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

The Department of Education has implemented a hub system for key workers who have no alternative childcare arrangements and should only be used in that circumstance. Staff from our school and other schools have volunteered (circumstances permitting) to work at the Hub School throughout this period.

Magherafelt Primary School is now the Hub School for this area. If you are a Key Worker and are likely to require this service for your child, in the first instance please email

gbuckley577@magherafeltps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk to complete a data capture form.

Holy week and Easter ceremonies

Join with our parish in celebrating Easter
Available on webcam

Mon, Tues, Wed - mass 11am, holy hour 7pm

HOLY THURSDAY: The Lord's Supper 7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY – Stations of the Cross 3pm (also Facebook Live); Celebration of the Passion 7.30pm

HOLY SAT: Blessing of the Food for Eastern European Families 1pm
Easter Vigil (abridged) 9pm

EASTER SUNDAY Mass 10.30am & 12noon

<https://www.magherafeltparish.org/church-webcam>