



Pupil Information 20th April 2020

The past



This week's photo was taken in April 2019. It features our School Council from last year and Carin McLaughlin (Kathryn & Aimee's mum) who represented Meadowlane shopping centre, sponsors of Friends of New Row Easter raffle tickets. The money raised helped buy interactive panels and we had hoped to use this year's money to finish off this project. But it will keep! Who do you know in the photo? Can you remember the names of the 3 P7s who are now at post primary? Any buddies for our Y1s & 2s?

The present

Dear Diary...

Did you know that children who keep a diary are twice as likely to be better writers than others in their class?

How to keep a diary... It's EASY! All you need is a notebook. It might be an old exercise book that you can decorate with pictures & stickers. It might have the crest of your favourite football team on the front. It doesn't matter! What matters is that you take time to write in it every day. *You decide* what you want to include! Ideas could be...

- A few sentences about what you have done that day & what you want to do tomorrow.
- A list of things you are good at, places you want to visit, your favourite foods etc

Diaries don't have to be secret – especially for children - so it would be good to share it with an adult at home. Remind them they don't need to correct all your spellings 😊



Reminder: ~~Principal's~~ Pupil's Awards!

Thanks for the pictures of award winners from your house. Every week, I'd like you to design a certificate and write a reason why someone in your house deserves your award. Then why not send me a photo?



The future

What are you looking forward to?

My niece is 3 on Wednesday and I am her godmother. I am looking forward to seeing her on her birthday. It will be different as she will be inside and I will be at the window. I bought her a tshirt that says 'It's my birthday' on it just in case she forgets! A different sort of birthday – but still important to celebrate! There will be parties when this is all over – and it will pass. What are you looking forward to?

Enjoy the weather this week! Can't wait to stand at the school doors again!
Until next week, take care.

Mrs Graffin



Parent Information: 20th April 2020

Home learning Week 4

Welcome to Term 3! We hope you had a peaceful and safe Easter. Many thanks for all the responses to our survey. It was really lovely to hear from so many families. It is also very useful as we plan our new learning packs. Collection will be on Friday and times will be texted to you. I've used some of the feedback in the information below, which I hope you find reassuring. Remember –this will pass. *Mrs D Graffin (Principal)*

What sort of home school are you?



Parent(s) at home working through tasks with multiple children

Hard to cope working with more than one child at a time! Suggested timetables might be different or hard to juggle.

Tips

You are in charge of the schedule – don't be frightened to move things around to suit (including giving you more 1-1 time if needed). Do what you can – accept you won't get everything done – and we understand that. Prioritise – better doing one activity well than attempting lots.

Use the teacher's checklist or create your own to tick off tasks as they are done. Children can help do this, too.



Parent(s) working from home with child/ren completing tasks

See all above! Also technology will be in high demand.

Tips

You do not have to visit every link suggested. The most important reasons to access technology are

- To view pupil overviews at newrowps.com
- To complete Education City tasks
- To read online and/or complete an AR quiz

Anything else will just have to be prioritised and timetabled.



Parent out at work. Children being looked after & working on packs

Will they do it the same way as I do? Will I have to check over it when I come home? Carer says they can be hard to settle.

Tips

This is a strange time for everyone. You will not have time to repeat everything when you come home – nor should you.

Take an interest in what your child has done and agree what they will do tomorrow – a checklist will help.



Parent out at work. Children being looked after & no opportunity to work on packs

What could they do during the day?

Should we do all the work in the evenings?

Tips

During the day, your child can read lots and even keep a diary. Older children might be able to complete activities independently. They can also enjoy time with their carers.

Do not try and complete all activities after work. Do what is manageable e.g. one activity done well. You could use free time at the weekend to catch up on *some* other activities.



Parent working with child at home 1-1

Even though this is the exception, it can still be challenging! Not enough for the child to do?

Tips

For some, there could never be enough! You could repeat written activities using different ideas...and you can never have too much practice of number facts! More worksheets? Many worksheets keep children busy rather than teach them. If you want your child to be busy, why not try some of the other activities teachers have suggested?

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