

OMAGH INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

72 Crevenagh Road, Omagh. Co. Tyrone, BT79 0GW

Principal

Mr Gavin Gallagher B.Ed., P. Q. H (N.I)

Vice Principal

Mrs Siobhan Taggart. B.A. Hons., P.Q.H. (N.I)



17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been 5 weeks now since our pupils last attended school. We continue to miss them very much and they remain in the thoughts of our staff every day.

We trust that you have all enjoyed the Easter break, albeit a very different one from those that you will have enjoyed in the past and will enjoy again in the future. The sun has shone (thankfully!) and we hope that all of our boys and girls have been able to enjoy being outdoors in a safe manner...in addition to enjoying some Easter eggs!

Monday 20th April would have seen the beginning of our 3rd and final term of 2019-20 and with this in mind, our school staff have been preparing our provision for your children to learn as best as possible from home.

To this end, our website now includes a 'Home Learning' Tab which is then further sub-divided into Year Groups. Access to this part of the website requires a password and this will be sent to you by text, later on today.

You may wonder: Why are we providing access now whilst the Easter break continues?

We simply wanted to give you, as parents, an opportunity to browse the Home Learning information available ahead of Monday. Our advice remains the same...the children are on holidays and should make the most of this time!

There is a range of information available for each year group and it may seem overwhelming. This content will be updated as the days and weeks pass.

Please remember the sentiments of our previous communications...

Do the best that you can.

Nobody is expected to complete every single activity.

Focus on key elements: Reading each day, spellings for older pupils, phonics for younger. Prepare for an element of Numeracy each day...the more practical the better, especially for younger pupils.

Include physical activity each day, build with LEGO, try to incorporate the outdoors in learning, especially for younger pupils.

Tel: 02882 242008

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Supplement 'formal' learning with exercise, playing games both inside and outside, completing puzzles, listening to stories, cooking and baking etc

Please do not feel pressurised into doing everything that is available or everything that is suggested. This will be difficult at home as you try to juggle other commitments. You will know what suits your child and your circumstances.

Each Year Group within the Home Learning tab will have capacity for the upload of photos of pupil work, plus a parent comment. This is voluntary.

In addition to the Website, Year 1 and 2 classes will also be able to use the Seesaw online learning platform through the Seesaw App.

Instructions on how to access this and 'enrol' your child with their class will be available in the Year 1 and 2 sections of the Home Learning Tab and a further password for this will be sent by text.

Our Nursery class will also be set up with Seesaw in the near future.

Schools are closed indefinitely and 'remote learning' is in its infancy. Throughout the weeks ahead, we will review our provision and may make changes to what we offer and how it is shared. We appreciate your patience at this time as we explore the best means by which we can support you as you support your child at home.

Your child's education is of course, important, and there are many things that you can do to help your child continue to develop over the coming weeks.

Remember though...these are extraordinary times. Most important of all will be the encouragement, positivity, fun, time and of course love that you provide.

Keep safe and look after each other.

Regards

Gavin Gallagher

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