



St. JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

May 2020



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Dear school community

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. Words cannot describe the situation we all find ourselves in. Our school building is lifeless without our pupils and staff but in the interests of public health and safety for everyone it is imperative that we follow the key message of STAY HOME, STAY SAFE and SAVE LIVES. Use this time to 'hit the reset button' and focus on family time and the maybe the things we have taken for granted in the past. As regards homeschooling, we fully appreciate what you are doing to continue some semblance of formal education. It is not ideal, but it is vitally important that you do a little and do it often. Our dedicated teachers provide a learning schedule every week to help you. Our Useful Websites under Parents Area on our web page is full of excellent resources that are easily accessible and completely child friendly. We are thinking of you all and certainly miss the smiling faces and personalities of our unique and talented pupils. May God Bless you all and keep you safe and well at this time.

Home Learning

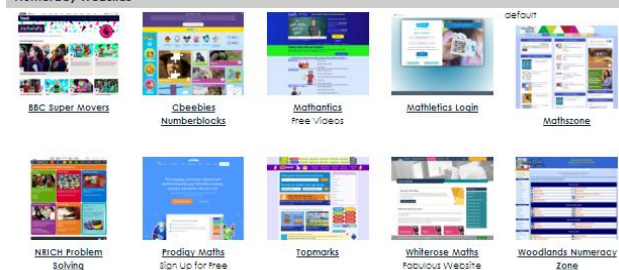
Our Home Learning Area on our website is the key method of communication between school and home! Teachers continue to update this on a weekly basis. If you have any queries at all please email your child's class teacher. ***You will find your teacher's email address on the letter in your Home Learning packs.***



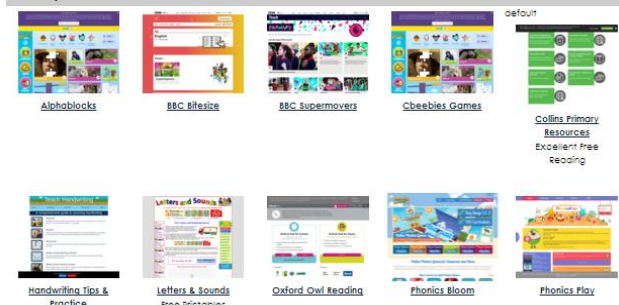
A small sample of Useful Websites and resources in our Parents Area at

<https://www.stjosephspsmeigh.org/parent-area/useful-websites/>

Numeracy Websites



Literacy Websites



Upper Killeavy Parish News

Mass each day at 10am and evening devotions and rosary are now being streamed live at this link.

<https://upperkilleavyparish.onlinemass.org/>

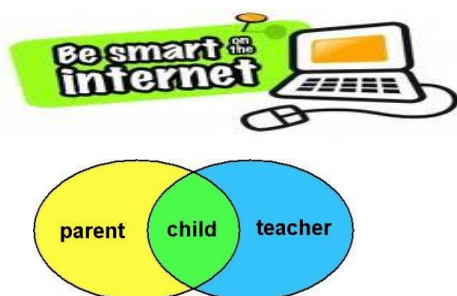
INTERNET SAFETY

Online safety is more important than ever during lockdown. Talk to your child about the SMART rules they learned about in school.

Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. No age is immune from the dangers of the Internet. For further information and information for your children visit:

<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Or <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great home learning website that supports students through interactive activities, games and challenges. Teachers are setting weekly tasks for all our children to keep your maths skills sharp. Certificates will be uploaded weekly on our school website.

P4 Holy Communion

The month of May should have been a lovely month for celebrating our Primary 4 Sacrament of Holy Communion but unfortunately due to the Covid 19 Pandemic this had to be postponed. There are no further details yet on when a new date might be. However as soon as we know more we will let you know.

Armagh Parish has planned a special mass for all the children who should have been making their First Holy Communion this year. It will take part on Sunday 17th May at 11am and you can join in the celebrations via webcam at www.armaghparish.net

You are invited to draw or design a picture of Jesus who is the Bread of Life. You can email a

photo of your picture to Miss Maginnis and she will add it to the school website.

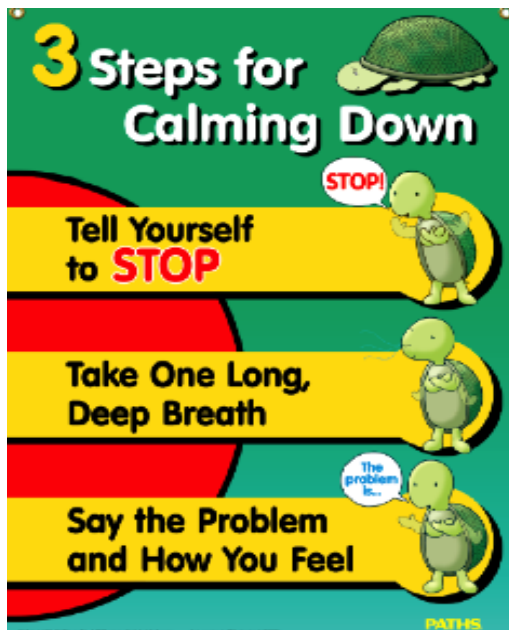
In the meantime, we are thinking of and praying for our Primary 4 Children during May on what would have been a very special month for them.

Home Schooling Challenges and our Well Being

Home Schooling and working from home is something that (in our school family) we have had to adapt to since the COVID19 Pandemic and Government Lockdown to contain the spread of the virus. At the beginning it was a novelty but as time wears on, the impact of this new way of life can be even more challenging than originally thought. That is why it is so important that we follow the following 5 STEPS to looking after our Mental Health whilst at home....

1. Connect.... Keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues. Use phone calls, texts or video calling apps such as facetime or whatsapp.
2. Be Active....play games with the kids, join an online yoga class or take a walk outside (keep a 2 metre distance).
3. Give.... Caring for others can help our own mental health. Offer support to a friend or neighbor in isolation.
4. Keep Learning...read something that interests you. Read books, watch documentaries or learn a new craft.
5. Take notice...Notice the beauty around you. Feel the sun on your skin, listen to the birds and breathe.





How fantastic is this? P6 pupil Ava Carr won The Buttercrane, Newry, art competition. Beautiful artwork and inspiring slogan Every Day is One Day Closer. Ava's prize was an overnight stay at Tayto Park for the whole family. Congratulations.



Pope Francis' five finger prayer guide.

1. The thumb is the closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a "sweet obligation."
2. The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.
3. The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God's guidance.
4. The fourth finger is the ring finger. Even that it may surprise you, it is our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.
5. And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs but in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.



**POPE FRANCIS
FIVE FINGERS
PRAYER
FOR CHILDREN**

4K VIDEO

Happy 50th Anniversary



Primary One



Primary Two



Primary Three



Primary Four



Primary Five



Primary Six



Primary Seven

Lafayette
PHOTOGRAPHY
SINCE 1960

WE
MISS
ALL
OUR
WONDERFUL
GIRLS
and
BOYS

