



Email from Junior School Leadership Team

Thursday 26th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

First of all, we would like to express our gratitude for the level of engagement with the online learning via Schoology that we have witnessed since Monday. We realise this is a stressful time for everyone and this transition from school to home learning would be impossible without your support. Our thanks also for the number of very kind emails expressing your appreciation of the teachers. We are incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated staff and this has never been more apparent than in recent weeks.

When setting home-learning from Schoology, we are aiming to strike a balance with the amount of work given out but we are very aware that differing home circumstances can dictate how easy this is to manage. To that effect, please note that flexibility is key to making this work. We are building up an understanding of types of activities and number of activities that will challenge children enough but not overburden families.

Please note that we do not expect children to be working on a device all day during school hours. The school day is a mixture of work, play and relaxation and so should the home learning day. Build in plenty of break time, time in the garden if possible and most importantly, family time. Make the home-learning work for your circumstances.

Remember that only Mathematics and Literacy activities (two of each) will be posted daily. Depending on age/stage your child will have one or two activities weekly from MFL / Science / Humanities/Topic, RE (although daily prayer/Examen will be uploaded through Chaplaincy) and Art/Music. Submitting can be done in a variety of ways through Schoology depending on the work set and class teachers will advise groups on this. Please remember if there is a 'due date' on an assignment, there is no need to submit before that date but if the activity is not done it can be submitted later. Please be assured again that we need this to work for you.

We will continue to revise what we do to ensure that your child receives a dynamic, engaging and challenging diet of activities during this period. This week has been difficult but in many ways rewarding, not least in the strong sense of community that the sharing of online learning has heightened. That will be a source of strength to all of us in the coming weeks and hopefully reduce the impact this transition will have on your child's education. Please contact any of us if you need support with or clarification of any of the above.

With best wishes

Miss Emma Sharp, Mr Frank McHugh, and Mrs Karen Brown
Junior School Leadership Team