

17th March 2020

Dear Parents

For those families who may be at home and self-isolating rather than unwell, I am sending some information for you to help you with things to do at home. The teachers are all very busy teaching the children who are in school, and so do not have time to make additional packs. We will send home detailed information for all children in the event of school closing. Please see attached a suggested timetable for your day.

Home-Schooling advice – I found this online and thought it worth a read!

You DON'T have to recreate school in your house. Desks and tables are never mandatory in home-school - opt for sitting upside down on a couch or under a tree or even in bed.

👉 READ - read every day. Read to your kids, with your kids, listen to them read. Read comics and picture books and that book you loved when you were a kid. And when you need some time to yourself, turn on an audiobook - those count too.

👉 PLAY - play board games and card games. Play hide and seek and football in the garden. Pull out the wii that is gathering dust and go bowling in your living room. Have LEGO competitions.

👉 WRITE - write letters to grandparents and diary entries documenting your days. Someday their kids will want to hear stories about that time they were stuck at home.

👉 Go on a HIKE. Stay up late and look at the stars. Plant a garden. Dig up worms. Draw the leaves and flowers and bugs you find.

👉 Be CREATIVE. Make stop motion videos. Watch BBC earth movies and plan an imaginary trip. Discover a new hobby... or resurrect an old one. Order some wool and learn to finger knit. Paint pictures. Bake bread. They won't fall behind or stop learning.

👉 Enjoy a SLOW RHYTHM together at home... no early morning rushing to get to school, no running from activity to activity.

Yes, you might have to guide your kids in some virtual learning. This is your chance to let your kids do the things that get them excited... building forts, designing robots, baking muffins. This is your chance to help them see learning as something that happens ALL DAY LONG, in everything we do. Not just in textbooks and classrooms.

Some useful weblinks recommended by our teachers:

Reflect on Sunday's gospel for children with one minute video to explain the reading:

https://mycatholickids.com/jesus-talks-to-the-woman-at-the-well-minute-gospel-reflections-for-kids/?utm_source=My+Catholic+Kids+-+Newsletter&utm_campaign=032373ee23-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2016_11_07_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0db3365d63-032373ee23-493608589&mc_cid=032373ee23&mc_eid=f5a3f07680

Activities for all year groups (GPS means grammar, punctuation and spelling):

https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk/?goal=0_9fbcd14815-6404e1c253-191316987

Activities and quizzes from the National Geographic on a range of subjects

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/primary-resources/>

BBC bitesize:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Great videos on a range of subjects

<https://thekidshouldseethis.com/>

Fun things to do outside/in your garden

<https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/>

Work on scratch (computer coding)

<https://scratch.mit.edu/explore/projects/games/>

TTRock Stars for Times tables (children from Year 2 upwards have their own login)

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/42422>

MyMaths – children also have their own login – explore the pages and find lessons on topics that can be revised

Arts and crafts activities

<https://www.redtedart.com/>

learn another language:

<https://www.duolingo.com/>

and finally, activities to do with your child/ren that don't involve a screen!!

<https://medium.com/pobble/simple-and-fun-non-screen-activities-that-children-can-do-at-home-115543cb3b9c>

With kindest regards from a teacher who can't get her own child to do much at home – best of luck!

Kate Baptiste

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