



STRAID PRIMARY SCHOOL



Principal: D Boyd

Telephone No: (028) 93352686

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3 Irish Hill Road
Straid

Ballyclare

BT39 9NQ

5th June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

May I begin by extending our warmest wishes to you and your families as we negotiate this time of restricted movement together. I hope that both you and your families continue to be in good health and remain safe. The following letter is to give you some information and dates for June 2020.

Results of Remote Learning Survey 2

Results of parent surveys were as follows:

- Have you been able to access the Learning Resources sent by your teacher? 100% (Yes)
- Have you been happy with the balance of written work/practical work set by your teacher? 100% (Yes)
- Have you used the contact facility with your teacher during Week 1 to support any queries you have had? 50% (Yes), 50% (No)

My thanks to all who have completed these surveys and the Stranmillis College Survey also sent out for your views in May. Both sets of surveys have contributed to the drive for our school to make sure that the emotional wellbeing of pupils, parents and staff is the priority when the school does eventually re-start. More on that later....

Teacher Dates for Action Plan Work

During the following dates Miss Barr and Miss Christie will be **unavailable for contact** due to allocated administrative days for Action Planning.

Miss Barr- Wednesday 17th June & Thursday 18th June

Miss Christie- Thursday 18th June

If you have any emergency items that need to be dealt with, you can contact myself on the school mobile or on my email address. (Both are at the bottom of this letter in the Contacts List Area)

Primary 7 Finish Date

Primary 7 children will finish their year early as planned on **Friday 19th June**. School hope to hold a P7 Leavers afternoon in August/September instead of the usual June date in which pupils and parents will be invited back to celebrate in the usual way with a presentation of each child's Record of Achievement and a Straid Primary School Leavers Hoodie. The confirmed date of the Leavers Afternoon will of course be dictated by which stage of recovery from COVID-19 our country is in, as will arrangements around number of attendees and social distancing. The arrangements will be communicated to Primary 7 families closer to the time of the Leavers Afternoon.

May I wish every one of our Primary 7 children well in their next school. Each of the Post Primary schools will be very fortune to welcome our excellent children from Straid

Primary School, every one of which we are very proud of and have been very privileged to teach and care for during their time here. We will watch with great interest to see each one of you develop into young people to be proud of in the years ahead!

School Reports

School Reports will be sent to parents at 3.00pm on Friday 26th June. Your school report will be a full report as usual and will be based on teacher judgement and class assessments from September 2019- March 2020. **Reports will be sent via email.**

Please print two reports, sign them both and return one by post to:

Straid Primary School, 3, Irish Hill Road, Straid, Ballyclare, BT39 9NQ
before **Friday 3rd July 2020**

If you have any queries about your child's report, emails must be sent to your class teacher on/before Monday 29th June @ 12.00pm

New Parent Representative on Board of Governors

The Board of Governors welcomed school's new parent representative Mr. Tim Burns to his first Board of Governor meeting on Wednesday 27th May. Mr. Burns has already contributed to and brought valuable insight alongside the other members of our Board of Governor Team and we look forward to working with him further in the future.

Plans for School Re-start

Whilst there has not been a definite date of return for pupils to Primary Education and practical arrangements around school restarts have not been decided by the EA/DE, I would like to re-assure you that in school we have begun our planning and discussion around what a return to school may look like.

Whilst definitive answers cannot be given to many questions at the minute and final arrangements will be dependent on medical advice and Stormont Executive legislation, there are some key messages that we do know will be in place when school does eventually restart. These are:

- 1) Emotional Wellbeing for all members of our Straid Primary School community is a priority,
- 2) Literacy, Numeracy, Well-being learning will be key areas,
- 3) Social Distancing arrangements in all areas of the school grounds will be in place,
- 4) Hand washing and cleaning routines will also be established,
- 5) Reliance on each other to work together to find solutions to problems and keep lines of communication open will be vital,
- 6) Our tagline of 'Where Every Child Matters' will drive all decisions in school.

Each child will be provided with a simple 'Back to School Booklet' to help them to begin to adjust over the summer and you as parents will also receive a booklet with practical direction to enable you to prepare and plan for our school restart. In school, we very much hold to the view that we need to be prepared and organised ahead of time in order that the transition for all involved is as smooth a process as it can be whilst also recognizing that we will need to be able to adjust according to the medical advice at any given time.

Both child and parent booklets will be sent to you during the summer break whenever we in school receive more definitive direction from DE/EA.

(I had initially hoped this would happen in June however it has not worked out this way)

Contacts List

School mobile number: [07907017939](tel:07907017939)

Please note the following guidelines for use:

- 1) **This is an emergency number-** you may still contact Miss Barr, Miss Christie and Mrs. Boyd through email in the event of a non-emergency,
- 2) You may contact this number from **9.00am-5.00pm**,
- 3) If you have been unable to speak to a member of staff, **please leave a message**, someone will return your call as soon as possible,
- 4) **Key workers/carers of vulnerable children may use this number if they need to organise supported learning for their child(ren). Mrs. Boyd is happy to facilitate this.**

Please note- Teacher supported learning will be organised as placement in a neighbouring school due to the closure of Straid PS since Monday 23rd March and should only be used if there is no other child-minding option.

Email contacts: dboyd220@c2kni.net
hbarr197@c2kni.net
cchristie829@c2kni.net

Pastoral Care/Safeguarding contact: dboyd220@c2kni.net
(Any safeguarding issue will be dealt with the utmost importance and urgency)

Website: www.straidprimary.com

Finally, may I thank you as parents and guardians for your continued support of the Straid Primary School staff team. Your children are a credit to you and we are very proud of them all here in Straid Primary School.

Keep well and stay safe.

Kind Regards,
Mrs. Boyd