

March Newsletter 2022

www.stpatricksannaghmore.com

Main Dates and Events for your Diary Term 2!!

Wednesday 2nd March

Ash Wednesday

Day of Fast and Abstinence.
Ashes will be distributed at
school for all pupils and staff
by Fr John or Canon Benny.

Thursday 3rd March

Dental Survey Visit and
assessment for all 5 year olds.
Consent forms will be sent out
nearer the date.

Wednesday 16th March

GREEN DAY!!

Wear green to school - non-
uniform day.
£2 per pupil.

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th March 2020

School Closed for St Patrick's
Day Holiday & Optional Closure;

Thursday 24th March 2022

First Confessions
for P4 Pupils
7:00pm

St. Patrick's Church, Clonoe

Thursday 14th April - Friday 22nd April 2022 (Inclusive)

Easter Holidays

Early closure for 11:00 am:

Thursday 9th April 2020

School re-opens Monday 25th April 2022
for Term 3.

First Holy Communion for all Primary 4 Pupils of St Patrick's PS

Saturday 14th May 2022

11:00am

St Patrick's Church, Clonoe

Confirmation St Patrick's PS ONLY

Saturday 11th June 2022

2:00pm

In St Patrick's Church
Clonoe

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices.

Please note that it is against school policy for any child to bring in a mobile phone, i-pad, DS or any electronic device to school. They are too expensive and precious a gift to run the risk of them being broken or going missing. ***The school will not accept any responsibility for such item if brought in.***

Policy available on school website www.stpatrickssannaghmore.com

If discovered, they will be taken to the office for safe keeping and sent home at the end of the school day.

**All visitors, Parents & Guardians to the school are respectfully requested to switch off or silence phones while at the school
Please do not take offence if asked to do so.**

Traffic outside the school

Please ensure when parking, that residents are not blocked into or out of their drive ways in the mornings or at pick-up times in the afternoon.
A sincere 'Thank You' to all parents who are supporting the appeal to leave clear access at the school gate at all times when parking.

Allergy Aware School.

Please check that, as far as possible, all food sent into school has been carefully checked for nut content. We have a number of children with various Nut Allergies and it is essential that the school environment is as **NUT FREE as possible** to protect their health and welfare.
This has the potential to be a life-threatening condition.

We require your support to help protect all our children at St Patrick's PS.

To this end,

- no Cakes should be sent into school for sharing with classes as the contents cannot be guaranteed
- and please ensure no peanut butter is used as filling in any snack or sandwich.

Together, we can make a really BIG difference and include every child equally at our school.

Staff, both teaching and non-teaching have availed of Centralised Health Awareness updates for both diabetes and anaphylaxis in February during Staff Training Days.

CORONAVIRUS and school.

It has certainly not been the school year we all hoped for so far...

COVID is still rampaging through our community and is more contagious than ever.

Once again we have updated guidance from DE/EA/PHA and we endeavour to follow this, in partnership with you, our parent body.

if your child has any symptoms, keep them at home and book a PCR for them and do not take them to school until you have received a negative result through PHA.

If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test, keep them at home and retest on day 5 and day 6 using Lateral Flow Tests; they should have a negative Lateral Flow Test result day 5 and day 6 before they return to school at the earliest on day 6.

If either of these days give a positive reading, then you should continue to test daily until you have 2 negative results on two consecutive days and they should stay at home until they have the two negative results on two consecutive days.

If your child goes for a PCR test because they have symptoms or a positive lateral flow test, they MUST STAY AT HOME until you receive a negative result - do not bring a child to school before the test result is back. If positive, PHA will contact you, and you should follow their advice and self-isolate your child. They will guide you on close contacts at home. Please inform the school as soon as possible.

If you test positive you should SELF ISOLATE and NOT DRIVE TO THE SCHOOL with any children, as this could have a serious effect on infection in your child's class.

We will endeavour to keep classes in school as a top priority every day. However, there may be times when we do not have any option but to move to remote learning but this will be for the minimum number of days possible as any time.

RE: Remote Learning

We have been told by DE & CCMS to have contingency plans in place in the event of:

1. Teaching Staff being off ill and no cover teacher available
2. Staggered reopening at any time as directed by NI Executive and DE
3. Future lockdowns as directed by NI Executive.

The only way to address such circumstances, is through Remote Learning. As such, we will use the school website as before and each Class P1 - P5, who already have a designated class link for Home Learning, under which staff will upload tasks for children to complete.

Google Classroom is the platform used for P6 & P7.

1. In regard to staff unavailability, as this will be very short notice, a text message, to tell parents of children in specific class/es that a teacher is not available, will be sent out. Work will be uploaded to the Home Learning area for that class/es concerned for core subject areas (Reading/Literacy and Maths) for children to complete. As the teacher is off ill and no replacement available, there will not be any interaction online nor feedback on the day/s this provision must be made. Please be assured that this will be a last resort if a qualified teacher cannot be sourced to take over a class and it will be for the minimum amount of days possible and is subject to risk assessment.

2. In response to 2 above, should staggered return to schools be implemented by NI Executive,

then Remote Learning will take place for classes who remain off until they return to school full time as directed by NI Executive.

Teachers in this scenario, will teach remotely as before, uploading instructional videos and tasks for each group who remain at home. Teachers will respond to questions and queries via online and will feedback on work completed and uploaded by parents for them to view.

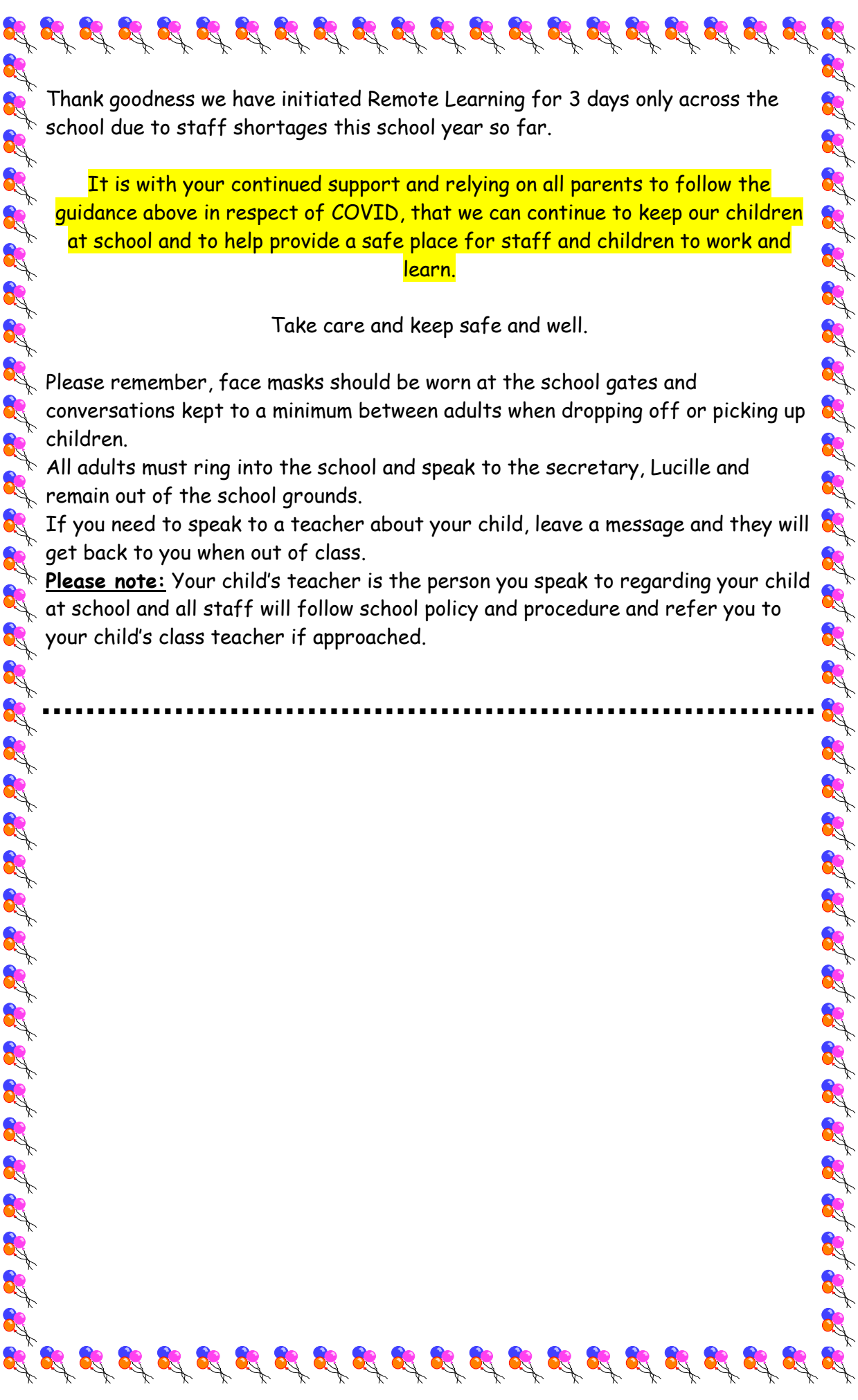
Google Classroom will be interactive for P6 and P7 as directed by teachers and pupils of P6

and P7 have been shown how to use Google Classroom before Christmas break.

3. In response to 3 above and NI Executive calling for complete school closures and lockdown,

All classes will be remotely taught as detailed above (P1 - P5 via Home Learning links on website, and P6 & P7 via Google Classroom.)

Please note, this communication is to inform you of the essential contingency planning for possible disruption to a child's learning due to COVID from this point forward.



Thank goodness we have initiated Remote Learning for 3 days only across the school due to staff shortages this school year so far.

It is with your continued support and relying on all parents to follow the guidance above in respect of COVID, that we can continue to keep our children at school and to help provide a safe place for staff and children to work and learn.

Take care and keep safe and well.

Please remember, face masks should be worn at the school gates and conversations kept to a minimum between adults when dropping off or picking up children.

All adults must ring into the school and speak to the secretary, Lucille and remain out of the school grounds.

If you need to speak to a teacher about your child, leave a message and they will get back to you when out of class.

Please note: Your child's teacher is the person you speak to regarding your child at school and all staff will follow school policy and procedure and refer you to your child's class teacher if approached.
