

## Letter from the Principal Litir ón Phríomhoide

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Teachers have been busy preparing learning activities for their classes for this week and we will continue to do so while schools remain closed due to Covid-19.

### **Home Learning Activities:**

We will continue to send home learning activities to you daily via Aladdin.

There are additional support information and resources on the school website.

Each teacher has a class blog page. Our website address is

[www.newtownprimary.ie](http://www.newtownprimary.ie).

We hope this work will be of benefit to you and your child. However, if at any time you find this work too much or your child is struggling with it, please take a break and contact us.

Teachers are available to support you and your child during this time. They can be contacted via their newtownprimary email address - you will find this information on the class blog page. Our Special Education Teachers are also available to support parents and children.

Teachers will try to answer your questions in a timely manner. As it is a challenging time for everyone, it may take us a little longer than usual to get back to you. Please bear with us.

As I said before, we do not wish to bring any stress or anxiety into your home. If you cannot do school work or activities at home, please do not worry. The health and well-being of you and your family must always be the top priority. We are mindful that different children will be able to complete different amounts of work during this period of school closure. As a school we take a child-centred approach to teaching and learning. We will adapt and differentiate all our lessons when schools reopen to take into account where your child is at with regard to their learning.

**Classes for children with ASD:** Teachers in our classes for children with autism will email parents with home learning activities and resources.

Dr. Geraldine Leader, our ABA Consultant, is available to support parents who have a child with autism. Please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a telephone meeting with Dr. Leader.

**School Website:** Thank you to those of you who have already sent in photographs of your child's work. If your child would like to contribute to the

art gallery or the newsletter, please email their work to [c19parentsupport@newtownprimary.ie](mailto:c19parentsupport@newtownprimary.ie). We have also received some lovely photos of children engaging in home learning activities. We can only publish these photographs on our website with your permission. Please indicate in your email if we have permission to put photographs of your child on our website.

Please do not feel under any pressure to do this if it does not suit you. It is not a requirement of home learning activities.

**School Lunches:** As part of the lunch scheme, Carambola have delivered food packs to many families in our school during the month of April and many families will soon receive the pack for May. This service will continue during the school closure period. If you are interested in adding your name to the list, please email [schoollunches@newtownprimary.ie](mailto:schoollunches@newtownprimary.ie). Please include your child's name in this email.

**HSCL:** Ronan Keddy, our HSCL co-ordinator, is available to chat to parents during school hours. You can contact Ronan on 0862434741 or email him at [hscl@newtownprimary.ie](mailto:hscl@newtownprimary.ie).

Ronan has kindly organised art packs for families who do not have these resources at home. If you need one of these packs, please contact Ronan by phone or email.

**Communion and Confirmation** - We have not yet received any update on new dates for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation services.

Once again we would like to thank all members of our school community who work in frontline and essential services.

I hope you all stay safe and healthy.

Tabhair aire agus fan slán,

Deirdre Lennon

School Principal.