

24th March, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you and your families are all keeping well in these difficult, unprecedented times.

As per the updated announcement from the Department of Education and Skills our school will remain closed until April 19th.

We the staff of Scoil an Linbh Íosa understand all the challenges you are now facing and wish everyone continued good health.

To our parents who are working on the front line, we are indebted to you for your dedication and the sacrifices you are making to keep us all safe.

In the Parents Zone you will also find links to useful educational, interactive websites for each class, that might be of interest to you and your child.

The main publishers we use in Scoil an Linbh Íosa have also given parents free access to all textbooks and resources while schools are closed i.e. folens.ie and fallons.ie.

Next Monday, 30th March, each class teacher will publish another list of work you may cover with your child at home. This work will bring us up to, what under normal circumstances would be, the beginning of the Easter Holidays.

While we appreciate the time and effort you are making with your child to complete this prescribed work, we do hope that it doesn't become a stressful situation for you or your child. Keeping this in mind I want to remind you that baking, drawing, reading, exercising, playing board games or simply learning to tie shoe laces are just some examples of the activities which can be just as beneficial to your child's education and development. You could keep a diary of your daily exercise or a nature journal and learn the names of the birds, plants and animals you see each day.

Finally, I have been in contact with the manager of The Rock Nursing Unit in Ballyshannon and I have been given permission for our children to write letters or draw pictures for the elderly residents of the home, who are in isolation at this time. If your child has a special interest or a particular hobby, then it could be mentioned, but if not, a general letter would be much appreciated. The letters may be addressed to Mrs. Donna Reid, The Rock Unit, Ballyshannon. The letters may be signed using a first name only, if you are comfortable to do so, in line with GDPR and simply begin with Dear Resident. This would be a very meaningful and worthwhile exercise for both the children and the residents.

Best wishes and continued good health.

Anne Reid