

St. Dymphna's National School

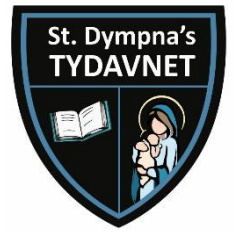
Tydavnet, Co. Monaghan.



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26th March 2020

Dear Parent(s),

With the news that schools are going to be closed until 19th April, we understand that we need to continue with teaching and learning in St. Dymphna's N.S. We also want to keep the connection between home and school. The aim of this letter is to let you know how we will be interacting with you and your child(ren) from Monday 30th March.

We aim to be able to communicate with the children and assist in distance learning through the use of Google classroom. Parents will need to give permission for their child(ren) to have access to their online classroom. This may be sent to emma@stdympnasns.com. I will then send you a code which will allow you to join their online classroom.

Google Classroom is a web-based learning environment. When logged into Google Classroom, students can collaborate with their peers and teachers. Google Classroom offers a digital safe space for students to view class announcements, access posted course content, view posted assignments and turn in completed work. Only authorised St. Dymphna's N.S. users (students and teachers) can have access to a St. Dymphna's N.S. Google Classroom. Google users outside the St. Dymphna's network are not granted permission to any St. Dymphna's Classroom.

Parents can access their child's teacher's Google Classroom in one of the following ways:

1. From an iPad, tablet or other device download and launch the Google Classroom App.
2. From any computer with internet access, click this link <https://classroom.google.com> and have the student login with their code.

Please note that any activity in Google Classroom is documented under the student's login and it would be inappropriate for a parent to communicate with the teacher or other students in Google Classroom. Parents should use their personal email to digitally communicate with the teacher.

When your child(ren) complete an activity, they can let their teacher know on your Google Classroom. We would love to see photographs of the children's work and projects. Please be mindful that anything posted to the classroom stream is visible to all students. Completed work can be returned privately to the teacher through assignments in the classwork section. We will offer praise and encouraging feedback for all efforts and will provide feedback where appropriate. Answers to assigned work will be uploaded for correction purposes where appropriate. If you need help with accessing or completing work, ask the teacher and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We have to look after "happy" and "safe" before we look at "learning" so please don't feel under pressure! Engage as much as you can. Not every family will be in a position to participate in Home Learning activities. As a staff, we understand this and value every family's decision equally. There is no obligation on families to complete the activities we will suggest. Everyone's main focus should be on keeping safe and healthy.

Finally, there are lots of teachers outside of the school making YouTube videos, Instagram Stories, and all sorts of other ways to help your child learn each day. If you find any good ones, why not let us know by emailing emma@stdympnasns.com and I'll share them on the school website <http://www.stdympnas.com/>.

Kind regards,

Emma