



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our virtual school! I hope that the Easter Holidays brought some variation to your days and that you managed to share in some of the celebrations for Easter which took place online; it was nice to know that the Easter Vigil was not going to be too wet or too cold for once...

We promised that we would investigate different Online learning platforms during the Easter Break and I am very grateful to Mrs Cahill and Mr Platon who have done all the work on this.

You should have all received an email yesterday with your child's login details for Seesaw. If you didn't, please email the admin site; Mrs Box and Mrs Murray were not rota-ed to be in yesterday so I had to send the emails myself and may not have had access to your most up to date emails!

From now on, staff will set work on Seesaw as well as the website; if we can move away from the website we will, but for now both will run. Mrs Cahill has prepared a short video for you here <https://www.sacredheartprimary.co.uk/1181/news/post/17/seesaw-how-to-guides> (also on the news section of the website) which explains how it works. Staff will be able to set work, you will be able to upload work and staff can comment on it. Staff will make clear to you which pieces of work they are "marking" each week. You are welcome to upload more than this, but it will not be commented on in detail.

Mrs Cahill refers to our Remote Learning policy in her video and I would emphasise how important this is. Behaviour online must reflect our usual behaviour policy and staff will be reporting to the Senior Team. Seesaw has the facility for communication between school and home, but we would ask that you only use it for clarification about the work. Any other queries should still come through the office. Again, I would ask you to make sure that communication is professional at all times.

I would also like to emphasise that all the staff are coming to this platform with different skills and experiences! Some will be very comfortable in uploading sound and video (and might have the quiet space to do this!) and others might need to work up to it. Just as each teacher has a different teaching style in the classroom, they will have a different style online, so please do not compare them. They will all be following the guidelines we have drawn up, but each will have their individual style.

Whilst the children are spending more time online, please make sure you have checked your parental controls on your various devices and make the children aware of the "reporting"



buttons on YouTube and other sites. We regularly Tweet advice when it comes in and this can all be accessed via the website.

We hope to be able to begin trying to change reading books over the next few weeks for KS1 & FS. We plan to leave a year group's books out at the front of the school, with a plastic wallet for each child. We would ask you to exchange your current books for the new ones. We will try to group families together so that you can change them all at once. We hope that this can be worked into your daily exercise patterns, but obviously this depends on you bringing back the books you have or we will run out! We will let you know which days to come so that we can maintain Social distancing.

In the meantime, I wish you all the best for the weeks ahead. We appreciate all that you are doing and, as many of us are parents as well, we understand the pressure of trying to work from home and work with children. All we ask is that you do what you can and appreciate that we are also trying to make everything work as well as we can.

Please continue to send any queries to the Office email account, as this is the one which is monitored most closely. Unfortunately, phone messages can take a while to pick up, so please avoid phoning.

Thank you for the many emails of support you have sent in; we really appreciate them.

