

Scoil an Tamhnaigh

Toonagh, Fountain, Ennis,
Co. Clare

Roll No. 03898U

Tel: 065-6820143

8th of January 2021

Dear Parent(s),

I hope that you and your families are safe and well in these very serious COVID times.

As I am sure you are aware, the Department of Education have announced the closure of schools until February 1st. It is not a situation any of us want, but all the staff in Toonagh NS will do our very best to continue with your child's education. We did fear that a school closure may arise and we decided to send home the school books with the children before the Christmas holidays, therefore we don't have to organise a book collection in the coming days. From next week teaching and learning in Toonagh NS will move online. The main online platforms we will be using in Toonagh for the next number of weeks will be:

- Seesaw App
- Zoom
- Email

Your child's teacher will be in contact with school work for next week. Then from next week onwards the following will be in place:

- School work for the week ahead will be emailed each Friday, prescribing the daily work for each day.
- Children will use Seesaw to upload their school work. Fortunately, we had continued to use Seesaw in school since the previous school closure so we are all accustomed to it.
- From the week after next, teachers will do a weekly Zoom call with their class. This will enable the teacher to check in with the children in their class. The video call will also enable pupils to interact with their teacher and class mates. Teachers will email parents informing them of the time of the call and provide a zoom meeting link. Please see information attached on Zoom video calls.

An email address is provided here for each teacher should you need to contact us:

- Junior and Senior Infants: msbrownetns@gmail.com
- 1st and 2nd Class: kate.brosnan13@gmail.com
- 3rd and 4th Class: seanieeustace@gmail.com
- 5th and 6th Class: clairecullinan1@hotmail.com
- Yvonne Griffin Special Education Teacher: msgriffintns@gmail.com
- Gearóid Roughan Special Education Teacher: gearoidroughan@gmail.com

I want to emphasise that we fully understand that each family is facing different challenges at this time and the work provided by teachers is not meant to cause added stress to families in this already difficult time. Do not feel under pressure or feel the need to get all the prescribed school work completed.

Thank you again for your ongoing cooperation and support during these difficult times for everyone. We all pray we'll be back at school soon and that the virus will be brought under control.

Stay safe and well,
Gearóid Roughan
Principal

Further Information for Parents

Zoom Video Calls

- From the week after next, Teachers will email parents informing them of the time of the call and provide a zoom meeting link.
- This Zoom call will be at the same time each week.
- When you click on the Zoom link provided and enter the code for the Zoom call, you will automatically enter a waiting room
- We ask that an adult be nearby during the zoom call.
- Recordings of the video calls are not allowed.
- Encourage children to listen and enjoy the experience.

Reading

While we appreciate how difficult school closures can be to keep reading going, we would really emphasise the importance of your child continuing to read where possible. Teachers will mention any useful resources they recommend or come across, for now some useful reading material is:

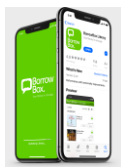
Accelerated Reader



We have it set up that pupils can access Accelerated Reader during the school closure with their username on login details (2nd to 6th class). They can continue to read and quiz. Last term the children in Toonagh read an amazing read an amazing 1272 books and 24 million words.



BorrowBox and Clare County Library



BorrowBox offers a wide range of stories for children to enjoy from home as eBooks and eAudiobooks. Registration is free and Clare County Library has more information here <https://tinyurl.com/y2evuu5k> Clare County Library states on its website it is providing a delivery service of library books. Members of Clare County Library can ring one of thirteen libraries Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 5.30 pm to avail of this service which is free.

Get Epic Reading



Free access to a wide range of books for 30 days when you create an account. Many of these books are on Accelerated Reader also.

<https://www.getepic.com/>