



Safe  
Ready  
Respectful

# Newsletter

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*April 2020*

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## Dear families

**I hope that you are all well and keeping safe. You are missed dearly at this time when everyone in Our Lady of Peace Community, is apart. It is difficult having to be vigilant constantly about everything we do in order to stay in good health but with care and patience we should get through this unsettling time, eventually.**

Our Lady of Peace has been a strange place this past few weeks with no children, few staff and no one in and out to have a natter, for example, with our lovely clerical staff, Miss Rae and Miss McCormack!

The children will be missing their friends and parents perhaps a chat in the playground...such important things. I know that the staff are finding it hard not seeing their colleagues.

However, all of us have an important job to do in following our government's guidelines so well done to us!

Maybe some children ( and even more so parents and carers), are fretting over the amount of home learning they can/cannot do and my strong advice is **not to**. We will all have lots of catching up when everything returns to normal and there will be plenty support to help do this.

Until then it is so important to follow advice; to look after ourselves by getting fresh air, opportunity to exercise, trying to eat healthily and most importantly, supporting each other.

In the meantime there will be things to do from the website, some reading daily, learning how to spell common words, practising handwriting, colouring in, testing parents on their times tables..I am sure everyone is doing lots of learning and maybe don't realise it! I ask that you encourage your child to access Sumdog for both numeracy and language activities ( everyone has a password), as we can see that some classes are not using it as much as they could. Under 50 Hilda at the last check had been using Sumdog. Perhaps 15-20 minutes daily is a good guide. More than anything though, encourage creativity in dance, song, artwork, play, etc.. Miss Reynolds (Primary One) recommends chesterzoo.org for fun watching!

**TYT**

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*Stay safe*

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### **Showbie**

We aim to make use of this educational app after the Easter holidays. It will allow the teachers to engage more closely with the classes and groups, in guiding and setting activities, tailored to different stages. It will require online access but no one should be disadvantaged and other activities will be set/provided if this proves difficult for anyone. Please just let me know if this is the case.

### **Primary 7 Leavers**

Our P7 children missed so many end of term events. It is hugely disappointing. However, we will most certainly celebrate their time at OLoP, I promise! As soon as we return, we will have planning in place to guarantee that they do not miss out...a special invitation will be on its way! Hoodies, shirts signed, sports, Prom? We will do our best!

### **Communication**

The Spring Break and Easter holidays start Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April until Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Our ways of communicating with you are via the school website, Facebook posts and texts/Group-call. Please keep an eye out for updates. Alternatively, I can access emails from home so please email me should you have any questions.

### **Buddy school**

During the Covid-19 outbreak, Our Lady of Peace will pair with Sandaig Primary when we return on 20<sup>th</sup> April. This will mean that both schools will open for part of the week only; any child requiring to be in school ( e.g. those of Key workers ), would attend whichever school is opened on the days required. Please let me know if you require your child to be in school.

**During this season of Lent, let us remember to pray and ask G to be with us through this challenging time. Kindest regards and best wishes for you and your families. Mrs McDonald Headteacher**

