

16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I wish to inform you that I have returned to work today and would like to thank everyone who sent me messages of support during my illness.

I have met with my teachers this morning and will meet with Principals later, followed by a further staff meeting this afternoon. Consideration has been given to contingency measures to be taken in the event of a school closure as a result of the Coronavirus. Carnaghts Primary School will, as far as possible, follow advice published by the Department of Education (DENI), the Education Authority (EA) and the Public Health Agency (PHA). Currently schools have been advised to remain open, however as this is a developing situation updated information will be available on a regular basis at-

<http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>

In the event of a school closure we will **immediately** notify all parents via a text to your mobile phone and we will post a notice on the school website.

To help your child continue with their learning at home we will provide some Literacy and Numeracy activities, however as you will appreciate not all learning experiences can be replicated at home and we understand the pressures and other commitments that may arise due to the situation. To facilitate staff preparing worksheets etc. and putting packs together, we have decided to bring forward one of our School Development Days to Wednesday 18th March. Therefore, the school will be closed for pupils tomorrow (St Patrick's Day) and on Wednesday. **THIS IS NOT A DECISION TO CLOSE CARNAGHTS PS AND SCHOOL WILL REOPEN FOR PUPILS ON THURSDAY 19TH MARCH SUBJECT TO DIRECTIVES FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.** If a decision is made at government level to close schools before Thursday, we will send you a further text and I will be available in school at specified times on Thursday and Friday for you to call in and collect work for children. If closures are announced that extend beyond Easter, we will notify you by text of arrangements to collect work.

To help your child with their learning, Twinkl has an offer to support teachers and parents, should schools have to close. This is a free resource. Parents can log on Twinkl using the URL www.twinkl.co.uk/offer and enter the code **UKTWINKLHELPS**. Parents can go to a dedicated Parents' Hub which contains hundreds of educational activities designed for use at home.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and support this year. It is important that we work together and help each other through this time of uncertainty. Look out for each other and stay safe.

Please also see overleaf for some other useful websites.

Yours faithfully,

Mr I Henderson, Principal

This non-exhaustive list has been compiled by various home educators and I hope you will find some of these websites useful over the next few weeks and months.

<p>BBC Learning http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/coursesearch This site is old and no longer updated but there is so much still available from language learning to BBC Bitesize Revision.</p>	<p>The Artful Parent https://www.facebook.com/artfulparent/ Good free art activities</p>
<p>Blockly https://blockly.games Learn computer programming skills. Fun and free</p>	<p>Red Ted Art https://www.redtedart.com Easy arts and crafts for little ones</p>
<p>Scratch https://scratch.mit.edu/explore/projects/games Creative computer programming</p>	<p>The Imagination Tree https://theimaginationtree.com Creative art and craft ideas for the very young</p>
<p>Ted Ed https://ed.ted.com All sorts of engaging educational videos</p>	<p>Toy Theater https://toytheater.com/ Educational online games</p>
<p>National Geographic Kids https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/</p>	<p>DK Find Out https://www.dkfindout.com/uk Activities and quizzes</p>
<p>Mystery Science https://mysteryscience.com Free Science lessons</p>	<p>Blue Peter Badges https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges</p>
<p>The Kids Should see This https://thekidsshouldseethis.com Wide range of cool educational videos</p>	<p>Geography Games https://world-geography-games.com/world.html Geography gaming</p>
<p>Prodigy Maths https://www.prodigygame.com Is in US grades but good for Primary Maths</p>	<p>Paw Print Badges https://www.pawprintbadges.co.uk Free challenge packs and other downloads. Badges cost but are optional</p>
<p>Cbeebies Radio https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio Listening activities for younger children</p>	<p>Topmarks https://www.topmarks.co.uk A variety of Educational games</p>
<p>Nature Detectives https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/ A lot of these can be done in a garden.</p>	<p>Crash Course https://thecrashcourse.com You Tube videos on a variety of subjects</p>
<p>British Council https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/find Resources for English language and learning</p>	<p>Crash Course Kids https://m.youtube.com/user/crashcoursekids Same as above for younger children.</p>
<p>Oxford Owl for Home https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/ Lots of free resources for Primary age.</p>	<p>ICT Games http://ictgames.com A variety of Maths and Literacy games</p>