

Ballymacrickett Primary School & Nursery Unit
Parent Information
8th February 2021



Sincere thanks for your on-going cooperation and support regarding remote learning. Our original hope was that we would all be back together after the mid-term break. We are now hoping for Monday 8th March. We understand that this is a very challenging time for many children and parents and we want to continue to help in any way we can.

As you are already aware, the teachers have been planning lessons across the curriculum each week with particular focus on literacy and numeracy. The Google Meets at the beginning of each day, and again midway through the day, have proven to be effective in setting a routine for the children, giving them the opportunity to chat with their teacher and other children in their class, as well as allowing the teacher to direct specific teaching points. Additional videos, web links, tutorials etc. are posted on Google Classroom to support the children in completing their main activities. Please do not feel under obligation to view everything that is posted.

We have been very encouraged by the feedback already received from many parents. However, if you have a concern regarding the activities set for your child, or indeed about any aspect of remote learning that you think we can support, please post a private message to your class teacher and he/she will do their best to help.

To allow Google Classroom to run as smoothly as possible, as well as ensure high standards of on-line safeguarding, we would ask that you consider the following:

- Encourage your child to be 'Camera Ready' for the Google Meet. This means:
 - ✓ Being fully dressed
 - ✓ In a suitable location
 - ✓ No distractions e.g. food and drinks
- We view the Google Meets as a classroom for the teacher and the children only. We understand that parents of younger children may be required in the background to assist with technology. In the interest of on-line safeguarding, we ask that other adults do not make themselves visible on camera.
- Any questions regarding children's learning that have not been addressed during the Google Meet, can be asked through a private comment after the Meet.
- For family privacy, please be aware that your child's microphone might be on and that background noise can be picked up.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your support and commitment to home teaching. We wish you all a very enjoyable 'Google Free' week during our mid-term break.

Staff of Ballymacrickett