



St. Richard's Catholic College



A National Teaching School, a National Support School and a High Performing Specialist Science College



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Principal: D. Cronin, N.P.Q.H., M.A., B.Ed.

23rd March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you had a lovely weekend enjoying some much needed dry weather and sunshine. I hope too that all mothers enjoyed a happy Mothering Sunday spoilt by their children.

I will be writing to you every now and again to give you updates on the Coronavirus situation and how it is affecting education, as well as answering any questions that have been raised.



Hopefully, the day has begun well with your child/children beginning their studies independently. Where computers have to be shared, then please encourage your child to read. Audible at Amazon is offering hundreds of free audio-books. This should benefit many children. Please click [here](#) for the link to the website.



Can I ask you to help your child to organise a sensible timetable over the next two weeks which includes: study time (revision for Year 10 and writing of their CVs which should be emailed to mrsjonesh@strichardsc.com), exercise, healthy eating, time for hobbies, time for helping around the house and garden, and time for simply relaxing. Hygiene is central to eradicating the threat of the virus so please encourage him/her to keep washing his/her hands.

Last week, I sent home a Pastoral Support booklet kindly prepared by Mrs Bligh and the Pastoral Care team; please can you read through this, particularly if your child is prone to anxiety. Later this week, I will share resources from Andrew Wright (Action Your Potential) which you may find of use over the weeks ahead. Can I also recommend the programmes that the BBC plan to broadcast to support learning and also suggest the use of The Body Coach TV on YouTube for exercise for the whole family, (9.00 – 9.30am).

As your child will be online more, can I recommend the following link which provides answers to parents' questions about keeping their child safe online. Please click [here](#) for the link. It has lots of useful information.

Attached is the Gospel reading for the week and its messages. Hopefully, you will find it a useful resource, particularly with churches currently being closed. Please be aware that you can access Mass on-line daily.

Can I remind you that Government guidance is that pupils should not be mixing socially and that we all need to follow the advice with regards to self-isolation, household isolation and social distancing. I would also like to remind you that school is only open for those pupils who **absolutely** need to attend:

- Children who are vulnerable:
- Children whose parents are critical to the COVID-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home.

Staff are working on a rota so that all pupils are supervised and supported with their learning. FSM pupils are reminded that lunch is available between 12.00 & 1.00pm and that we hope to have further vouchers available to them once the Government has decided how this will be organised. Packed lunches for Tuesday/Wednesday will be delivered to their homes tomorrow morning. Can those receiving these indicate if they would like packed lunches for Thursday/Friday too.

I will be writing to Year 11 pupils separately following the Government announcement re exam results Friday evening. Can I wish you a safe and healthy time. Please email any concerns and encourage your children to use the lines of contact open to them. I shall write to you again later in the week.

My best wishes for your good health and safety.

Yours sincerely

Miss D Cronin
Principal

