* **St Brigid’s Day Newsletter**

**Remote learning**.

As we know, school reverted to remote learning on 11 January as the transmission of Covid-19 increased nationwide and we are still not certain when we will reopen. This is not the happy new year we had been hoping for!

 We know that remote learning puts an extra strain on parents who are trying to juggle work, caring responsibilities, illness in the family, and sharing devices among the children of the family. We don’t expect you to become your children’s full-time substitute teacher. Just do what you can every day to keep your child connected to their teacher and to learning.

 Class Dojo, our learning platform, is easy to use on any device. Instructions for using Dojo are available here on our website. If you need help with Dojo, just ask.

The Board of Management has signed up to the PM Cengage Learning site so that every child in Senior Infants and First Class will be able to access a range of PM books at their instructional reading level. The class teachers have been in touch with all parents. This is a game-changer for the school in our remote education plan.

You will notice that the teachers have planned learning tasks that are active, fun, and short.

**Keeping in Touch**

If you have any questions or concerns you can keep in touch the following ways:

Message class teacher and SET teacher on Class Dojo.

Email to class teacher, SET teacher or SNA at her school email address.

WhatsApp or phone call to Home School Liaison teacher Olwen on 086 370 5773.

Email the school address at info@stbrigidsinfantschool.ie.

Phone the school office at 8348770.

We will keep in touch through Class Dojo, email, phone calls, Aladdin messages, WhatsApp messages from the HSCL phone or by post. Our website is regularly updated.

**Useful Resources**

Advice and tips on wellbeing and staying connected [www.gov.ie/together](http://www.gov.ie/together)

A website for parents, teenagers and teachers [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)

World Health Organisation website. How to manage children at home [www.who.int/covid-19/parenting](http://www.who.int/covid-19/parenting)

Plant Love Grow promotes wellbeing in parents, children and teachers [www.plantlovegrow.com](http://www.plantlovegrow.com)

**To help parents with remote learning....**

TV: Home School Hub, After School Hub (RTE) Cula4 (TG4), daily educational programmes on BBC and CeeBeebies.

YouTube: Joe Wicks, Gonoodle, Cosmic Kids Yoga

**Our school values**

Our school value for February is **Connection**. Let us all stay connected safely whatever way we can, remembering poet Maya Angelou’s wise words ‘*Alone, all alone nobody, but nobody can make it out here alone.’*

We are now proud sponsors of an elephant at Dublin Zoo thanks to our fundraising Pyjama Day, coordinated by Ms Crawley and the children in room 15. See the photo in our gallery.

**Calendar**

 Grandparents Day Wednesday 27 January is celebrated in schools every year as part of Catholic Schools Week. Sadly, we can’t continue our new tradition of celebrating the day in school. This year’s Catholic Schools Week theme is resilience. We are sending best wishes from St Brigid’s to all the grandparents and great-grandparents who can teach us all about resilience in difficult times.

We in St Brigid’s are sending a virtual hug to our “school nana” Mrs Monica Dunne who has looked after generations of staff and children at St Brigid’s serving milk, tea & coffee…. Monica is keeping warm and safe at home and looking forward, like all of us, to getting back to a normal day-to-day life.

 St Brigid’s Day Monday 1 February. As the children know from the song that we sing every year, “Brigid brings the spring…….”. There is a stretch in the evenings and you may see some daffodils starting to grow.

Safer Internet Day Tuesday 9 February. Check out webwise.ie for parents and teens for timely tips on safer internet use for all the family. Our Acceptable Use Policy can be viewed here on the website under Policies and Forms.

We are ALL very much looking forward to getting back to school again. Until then, day by day, we will all do our best to stay active, responsible, informed, hopeful and connected....