



Ard Rí Community National School

Ard Rí C.N.S, Balreask Old, Navan, Co. Meath.

Principal: Darragh Roe

Roll No 20352T



12.01.2020

Dear Ard Rí Community,

I hope everyone is safe and well. Unfortunately, the start of Term 2 has seen a return to Distance Learning. This school closure is scheduled for the month of January. The distribution of school books ran very smoothly yesterday. Well done all. We have a very small number of packs left here in the school and these will be delivered in the coming days. Online learning will be guided by our Acceptable Use Policy available on the policy section of our website or [here](#).

When communicating with the school please email us at ardricsn@lmetb.ie. You can call the school secretary on 087-1341007 between 9am and 2pm- Monday to Friday. We will then direct your inquiry as appropriate. We are committed to deal with your query as quickly as possible.

"This is not home-schooling. Home-schooling is a conscious decision made by some parents having researched that option. This is emergency education, during lockdown, while surviving a pandemic! So, let's lower our expectations of ourselves a little." – Dr Mary O’Kane

Be kind to yourself. Nothing can ever replace the live interaction and flow of teaching and learning in a classroom. Teachers constantly assess, differentiate and tweak lessons to challenge the learners in their rooms. Children learn from each other. Everyone’s experience of distance learning will be different. We all need to make this work for us. Support your child through online learning as best you can. There is no need to clear all the work on Seesaw every day. It does not need to be done exactly as prescribed. If you require more work encourage your child to expand their learning on a topic by researching it further or choosing extra work for them.

Learning on Seesaw:

- There will be a mix of 3 to 4 lessons and activities assigned daily to your child’s Seesaw feed. Friday activities will be ‘feel-good’ activities celebrating the week’s work. Children *may* wish to use Friday to complete any tasks not finished during the week.
- There will be a blend of guided and independent learning tasks assigned. Teacher will provide some short, pre-recorded clips to support learning. Do not worry if the way teacher is explaining isn’t the same way you were taught. We all use a variety of methods to solve challenges and learning an alternative method often deepens the understanding.
- Activities will mainly focus on the books in your child’s home learning pack. Some online resources from Folens, Topmarks, Oxford Owl, Youtube may be linked. Most activities can be responded to by uploading a clear picture of the child’s copy book or recording a voice note.
- Teacher will provide feedback as soon as possible. Please be patient in waiting for feedback. Teachers will be working flexibly at this time.



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- We will schedule one 20-minute whole class meeting on Zoom per week. The objective of these meetings is not academic. It is an assembly and an opportunity for the class to get together with their teacher, check-in and have a chat. Your child's teacher will invite your child to the meeting using a password and code which will be shared on Seesaw the day of the meeting. There will be more information on Seesaw closer to the time. Attendance at the assembly is optional.

As per our Acceptable Use Policy the guidelines for these live meetings are as follows:

- All meetings will be password protected or the lobby setting will be turned on.
- For video calls, parental permission is implied. Essentially, by virtue of the pupil logging on to the call, permission is assumed.
- All people involved in the meeting will conduct themselves in an appropriate, safe, respectful and kind manner the same that would be expected in a regular class.
- The staff member has the right to promptly remove any person being disruptive from a live lesson.
- A family member is expected to be close by when a pupil is engaging in a meeting. They should monitor all online interactions from the pupil.
- No recordings/screenshots are to be taken by children or parents.
- While chat may be available in an online meeting, it is the responsibility of the child's family to ensure that any interaction is appropriate. Any interaction from a pupil that could be deemed as inappropriate may result in the child's removal from the lesson.
- Ard Rí CNS cannot accept responsibility for the security of online platforms if they are hacked.

Timetable for Zoom assembly with each class is as follows:

Friday- 15.01.2020	10:00-10:20	Rang Maria
Monday- 18.01.2020	10:00-10:20	Rang Tara
	10:30-10:50	Rang Karen Dunne
	11:00-11:20	Rang Karen Dillon
Tuesday- 19.01.2020	10:30-10:50	Rang Rachel
	11:00-11.20	Rang Cailín
	11:30-11.50	Rang Rang Edel & Catherine
Thursday- 21.01.2020	10:00-10:20	Rang Sarah
	10:30-10:50	Rang Niamh
	11:00-11.20	Rang Jack

There is quite a lot of information in this letter. I will be back in touch with you all shortly to update you of any further developments. Keep your spirits up!

Yours sincerely,



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**A STUDENT'S GUIDE TO
ONLINE CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

WORKSPACE
Choose a workspace that is suitable for the online classroom.
Be aware of what others will see in the background.

SHHHH...!
Mute your mic when you are not talking or typing. Only turn it on if you are asked to speak.

BE ON TIME
Turn up - the class is to help you and your learning.
Be on time for your online classes.

NO PHOTOS
Do not take screenshots or photos of others online.

SCHOOL RULES
School rules apply in the online classroom.
Think before you type. Keep focused on the task assigned.

PRESENTATION
Dress appropriately.

SPEAK UP & ASK FOR HELP
Contact teachers during school hours or make an agreement about contact times.

RESPECT
Respect everyone's views online.

ENJOY IT!
Enjoy this new way of learning. It is new to a lot of people and it may take time to adapt.

We lead highly effective schools consistent with our core values
School Support Directorate - Education and Training Boards Ireland 2020

This might be a little bit blurry- Apologies!!