



'Happy to Learn'

20th May 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians & Pupils,

As today is 'Thank a Teacher' Day I would like to start with thanking all my teachers and classroom assistants who have continued to work diligently from home over the course of the time school has been closed and who are already planning for the reopening of school. I know they have been as frustrated as a lot of parents with how difficult it is to juggle both home schooling and working from home!

With this in mind, and following discussions with both parents and staff, I have decided that next week will be a 'tidy up' week. This means that teachers will still be available to answer any questions you might have and provide advice, but they will not be sending home any formalised learning. Please take this time to consolidate some of the learning you have done with your child, encourage them to increase their word count on Accelerated Reader, make as much use of Mathletics as you can (and download any booklets you feel might be useful) and finish any activities that you maybe didn't get a chance to.

MATHLETICS

I have very encouraged to see how popular Mathletics is with our families and also how well our pupils are doing with lots being awarded certificates. Unfortunately, we have only been offered it as a free trial and this is due to expire next Thursday so please get as much use of it as you can before then. With this in mind could I ask you to pass your opinion of it on to your class teacher via SeeSaw as if we all feel it is beneficial to our children I may look to find a way to fund the purchasing of it for the new school term.

REPORTS

It is our intention to issue school reports at the end of June but please understand that they will only contain information on your child's progress up to the time school was forced to close and will therefore not contain as much content as usual.

BALLYNAHINCH YOUTH FC

Well done to all of our past and present pupils who received awards in their age group categories at the end of season awards from Ballynahinch Youth FC! Let's hope all sport gets a chance to start again soon!

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Finally, as this week is Mental Health Awareness Week, it would be lovely if you could send your class teacher just 1 photo of you doing something as a family to look after your mental health. It might be having a picnic together, doing some mindfulness colouring, doing some exercise or even some meditation! The teachers will be taking part too and posting a photo!

As always, please stay safe and well and remember that the most important thing above all else is to keep everyone you care about healthy and happy.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Mr M. Moore
Principal