



# Scoil Oilibhéir

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are keeping well at this time of flux and uncertainty for all members of the Scoil Oilibhéir community. While we have sent you a memo already containing ideas for keeping your children engaged educationally at this time, we would strongly urge you to keep a firm focus on your child's wellbeing and mental & physical health also. Keeping a positive home environment for your child when they cannot see their friends, relatives, grand-parents in the same way as previously is very important indeed. Reassuring your child that we will all return to Scoil Oilibhéir and normality is also an important message to reinforce. Keeping a regular routine in terms of bed time, getting up time etc. will make life easier when the restrictions are lifted.

It now appears that the school closure will be a more prolonged one so I wanted to let you know that our teachers here in Scoil Oilibhéir are all currently working on providing an online educational platform so that they can engage with your children and send work to them in the weeks ahead. I will send a more detailed memo to you on this next week.

I would also like to highlight that we are aware of how busy and stressful most households are at the moment. Parents working from home, parents losing out on employment, worry about your child's education, concern about the impact of the restrictions on your child and older relatives, keeping the children occupied. These are all very real issues in households right now. Because of these concerns I think it is important to maintain a level of perspective around your child's education. Having your child "tuned in" educationally should only form part of your day – your child will continue to learn once normality returns. So, in terms of schoolwork please engage with our online recommendations and suggestions at regular times each day and for a period of between 15 mins and one hour depending on your child's age. We are just trying to maintain an educational link with you and your child with our online efforts during school closures. We are not trying to teach the curriculum online because this is not how the primary school curriculum is intended to be taught. There are more important issues right now for parents, children and teachers and these should take centre stage. Your child will continue to thrive and develop in our care once schools re-open. In case you are running low on ideas, here are some good online resources which you might find useful at home with your child.

Le dea-mhéin,

Principal.



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## **Online resources:**

- BrainPop
- Curiosity Stream
- Tynker
- Outschool
- Udemy
- iReady
- Beast Academy (Math)
- Khan Academy
- Creative Bug
- Discovery Education

## **YouTube Channels:**

- Crash Course Kids
- Science Channel
- SciShow Kids
- National Geographic Kids
- Free School
- Geography Focus
- TheBrainScoop
- SciShow
- Kids Learning Tube
- Geek Gurl Diaries
- Mike Likes Science
- Science Max
- SoulPancake

Lots of board games, library books (and Kindle), tinkering/upcycling with household junk, etc.  
Some resources to help with kids at home:

\*Scholastic has created a free learn-from-home site with 20+ days of learning and activities.

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

\*Pretend to travel the world..Go on a virtual tour of these 12 famous museums.

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

<https://allinonehomeschool.com/>

\*List of thinking games by grade: <https://allinonehomeschool.com/thinking/>

## **More educational websites:**



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<https://www.starfall.com/h/>

<https://www.abcya.com/>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

<https://www.splashlearn.com/>

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>

<https://pbskids.org/>

<https://www.highlightskids.com/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

<https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

<http://www.mathgametime.com/>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

<http://www.literactive.com/Home/index.asp>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>

<https://www.switchzoo.com/>

<https://www.seussville.com/>

<https://www.turtlediary.com/>

<https://www.e-learningforkids.org/>