



Birches Primary School

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping well. We are very aware of the additional pressure Home Learning has put on our families and know that everyone is doing their best to support their child at home. As time goes on circumstances may change and I hope you feel that you can communicate any concerns or queries you have to myself or your child's class teacher. We are committed to having your child back to school as soon as we can and we are currently working towards that. The Department of Education have said that they will give clear guidance regarding our start to the 2020/2021 school year. This will hopefully be given to schools before the end of the term and as soon as I have any more information, I will pass it on to you.

Home Learning

Over the past number of weeks, teachers have been providing work online using Seesaw with home learning packs sent home on request. There is a possibility that a form of 'blended' learning at home will take place in the 2020/2021 school year. Therefore, we are continuing to look at ways that we can facilitate this learning.

ICT Device Provision

Online learning will likely be a part of 'blended' learning and in order to support this you may wish to apply for additional devices for your family. I have attached an application form.

I would also encourage you to talk about any other ICT difficulties you are having so that we can support you in other ways eg: C2K network, recommended Apps, software, assistive technology.

Collecting children's books and belongings

- Below is a timetable outlining when school will be open for you to collect your child's belongings.
- Please make sure that only one person comes into school, no children please.
- The front doors will be open with hand sanitiser on the table in the front porch. A member of staff will direct you into the assembly hall where all of the children's belongings are set out on tables. These have been arranged in classes so that if you have more than one child at school it should be easy to find their things.
- There will be a one-way system in operation and we would appreciate it if you could maintain social distancing while waiting outside school and also in the school premises.
- There are a number of unnamed items on a table which can be taken if you recognise them.

Monday 1 st June	-	P7	-	9.30am – 1.00pm
Tuesday 2 nd June	-	P6	-	9.30am – 1.00pm
Wednesday 3 rd June	-	P5	-	9.30am – 1.00pm
Thursday 4 th June	-	P4/ P3	-	9.30am – 1.00pm
Friday 5 th June	-	P2/P1	-	9.30am – 1.00pm

This is a rough guide to try to limit the number of people coming in on one day. If this does not suit, please contact Mrs Watson – pwatson676@c2kni.net

P7s

P7's books can be collected with their belongings. However, they will also be given an opportunity to come to school, hopefully before the end of term, to have their Leavers Photograph taken and say goodbye to us. More information regarding this will be sent home once arrangements have been put in place.

Reports

The Education Minister has recognised that the annual written report will have to be modified this year. Reports will be posted to families at the end of term. End of Key Stage Assessment at P4 and P7 will not be able to take place this year.

Virtual Sports Day Saturday 13th June

I hope you are all looking forward to sports day! A little bit different to what we are all used to. We have seen some photographs and heard from the children about different things they are doing to prepare for sports day this year. If you need any further details, the Healthy Kidz Virtual Sports Day booklet is on our school website. We love to see what the children are doing, so please take videos and photos so we can share our day together!

Please take care and keep safe.

Mrs Watson