

Dear Students

You are living through interesting times. One day you will look back and tell your own children and grandchildren about the time your school was closed and your learning took place online. Nobody would ever choose to be in this situation, yet here we are. It brings challenges for you and for your families but it also brings an opportunity to grow as a person.

Here are 5 things for you to consider at this time:

1. Distance learning: A number of new, exciting ways are being used by teachers to interact with you. They include Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Skype, Edmodo. This new reliance on technology can be overwhelming for you, your parents and your teachers too. We urge you to do your best to cope in the present circumstances and let your teachers know by email how you are coping with the technology.
2. Social distancing: You will these last few weeks have realised that, although technology is a wonderful thing, it does not substitute for face-to-face contact. We must be patient and responsible – we must play our part in social distancing from our friends. When this is all over we can resume our ‘real world’ relationships with family and friends that we cherish so much.
3. Use the boredom: There will be times when you are bored – yet out of boredom comes creativity. It is a time when ideas and imagination get a chance to bloom. It is the perfect time to learn something new – a dance routine, a new language, a musical instrument, or to design, to create or to cook.
4. Family: You will be spending a lot of time with family these days and this can be challenging for you and for them too, however you will come to treasure this time when you look back later in life. Think of the difference it could make to a grandparent, or someone you can’t see regularly, if you took the time to Skype them every day.
5. You have a wonderful opportunity these days to become a stronger person physically, mentally, to learn to become more independent and to cope with frustrations. This will make you a more mature, rounded and resilient human being.

We miss you all at school – your energy, your talents and your joy. We look forward very much to welcoming you back through the school gates and saying ‘good morning’ again.

In the meantime, please listen to your teachers, keep learning, and support your family and friends.

Best wishes

Mr.Mcnamara and Ms.Gunn