

St. Paul's National School, Ratoath, Co. Meath
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Dear Parents,

As the schools have been closed for the next few weeks we have prepared work to occupy your children and to ensure that they stay busy and engaged. We don't expect you to teach your child so a lot of the work for the older children is self-directed and enjoyable, some of it may need adult support depending on your child's ability. Your younger children will, obviously, need more support. Some suggestions for all children -

- Give them directions and let them help around the house!! See can they follow instructions!
- Log onto www.helpmykidlearn.ie - great ideas for project work or activities
- TG4 Cúl 4 - some very nice programmes including animated cartoons and cooking shows that the children would enjoy
- 10 @ 10 as gaeilge <https://rtejr.rte.ie/10at10/>
- www.gonoodle.com has plenty of ideas for movement and mindfulness
- www.cosmickids.com has some great ideas for yoga and meditation
- Baking: Measuring, weighing - Using vocabulary - full/empty/heavier/lighter - as appropriate.
- Lots of activities are available on www.twinkl.ie/offer and www.nessy.com - both websites are offering free trials for the month in light of school closures
- We have lots of useful links to websites for children in the kids' zone of our website www.stpaulsratoath.ie

We have also attached suggestions for speaking to your child about Covid-19. If your child is particularly anxious or worried you might try more of the mindfulness and mediation from the above websites.

Specific suggestions for First Class:

- Board games - snakes and ladders, ludo etc
- Card games - Snap! Go Fish! Beg Thy Neighbour

Maths:

- Playing "Shop" - use real objects from around the house, give each a price between 1 and 50c. Work on ideas such as cost, change required, having enough money for purchases, recognition of coins
- Reading the clocks around the house - both analogue and digital. One o'clock, half past one, quarter past one, quarter to two etc
- Counting forward/backwards 1-15
- Count from different starts forwards and backwards 1-15/15-1 eg. 4-12
- Skip Counting eg. 1, 3, 5 etc; 10, 20, 30.....

- Make sets up to 20 and match equivalent numeral eg. make a set 4 teddies and match with the numeral 4
- Make two sets and talk about their sets using the language **more** and **less**.

English:

- Jolly Phonics (Yellow Jolly Phonics Word book) Tricky Words / Double sounds All can be found on Index page 1
- Allow your child to 'free write' - give them topics such as going to the shop / a trip to the park....
- Write a diary entry.
- Do a dictation (calling out words from their yellow Jolly Phonics book) - 8 to 10 words twice a week) Remember....
 - pencil grip,
 - Capital letters,
 - Finger spaces and full stops.
- Storyline Online - <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
- Watch one story each day. Get parent to pause the story at point and let child make predictions. Child makes connections throughout the story.
- Read a book a day to your child and ask questions/ predict/ analysis....
- Ask them to read to you or to siblings.
- Read the class novel - make predictions, discuss the story, paraphrase the story...

Fine Motor:

Activities to develop fine motor such as cutting, colouring, tracing, play dough, lego...

Other:

Free play with an adult with conversation around the activities to help develop oral language and communication skills.

We will be following government advice at all times but if we have specific communications we will be in contact through Aladdin. Best wishes and take care.

Yours sincerely,
Morag McGowan
Principal