

St. Thomas' Senior National School Jobstown, Tallaght, Dublin 24

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Dear Parents,

We hope you are all keeping well and that you are looking after yourselves as best you can during these challenging times. We understand it may be very difficult at home at the moment for any number of reasons – looking after everybody else, trying to keep the children indoors during the lockdown, working from home, looking after elderly relatives, worry about sickness, unemployment plus the general worry and stress about COVID 19 to name but a few.

We cannot access the school at the moment to prepare work packs as we are following the Government Guidelines. This means that the teaching and learning will be done through Google Classroom and online. We do know that this is not ideal for everyone and may cause difficulties for some of you due to lack of computers, access to the internet, etc. but we must abide by the advice from the Chief Medical Officer Dr. Tony Holohan.

I want to reassure you any work provided by the teacher is a menu of suggested activities to choose from – there are no deadlines and the children can work through the work at their own pace. Teachers will be linking in via Google Classroom on a regular basis. If you do not have the log in details or have any difficulties with this, please email the school at info@stthomas.ie and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

If you can at all, it would be very important to have form of structure on the day for the children to include, playtime, helping around the house, doing some schoolwork, reading, some outdoor exercise if possible.

What you can do to help your child at the moment:

- Encourage your child to engage with their teacher on Google Classroom this would be fantastic!
- Download the Google Classroom App on a phone or tablet OR use the Google Classroom website on a laptop or PC.
- Encourage your child to watch the RTÉ Home School Hub which is on RTÉ 2 every day from 11.00-12.00
- Keep an eye on the school website <u>www.stthomas.ie</u> which has lots of suggestions and is updated on a regular basis.
- Please let us know how we can help or support you ring Lisa (HSCL Coordinator) on 0830092792 or email us at info@stthomas.ie

Stay safe and well,

Eithne O Shea