



St Patrick's CBC

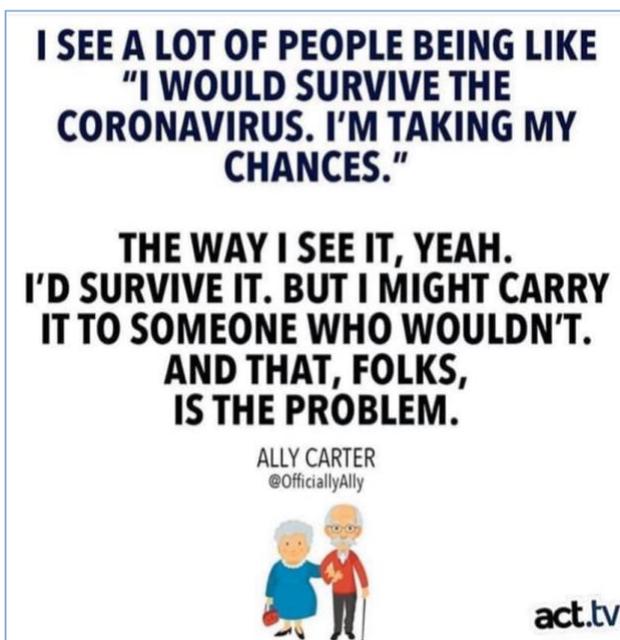
Weekly Information Sheet 10 - 2020

18 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As communicated, St Patrick's CBC is now officially closed, and unless otherwise informed, the school is scheduled to **reopen on Wednesday, 15 April 2020**.

I understand that not all of you agree with the decision to **close the school** for this period, but as per the President's instruction, we now follow the Disaster Management Act. This means that even though we are an independent school, we also have to follow the directive as given by the President. We are in the midst of a worldwide, life-threatening pandemic - and we need to pitch in 100% in order to save lives. It is ultimately about the safety of everyone, not only you and your immediate family. The image below explains this concept really well:



The three remaining tests of the **Grade 4-12 Test Week, will be written on 20, 21 and 22 April 2020**. We will confirm a date on which Term 1 reports will be issued in due course.

The April holiday, which was scheduled from 10 April to 4 May 2020, is therefore replaced by the current break. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

We are currently not at risk of losing any **academic time**, but we have already identified online teaching platforms which could be utilized if we are unable to return to school after the Easter break. The teaching staff will finish on Friday, 20 March 2020. They are attending an online teaching workshop today and tomorrow. In the meantime, it is recommended that you please try to secure a strong **internet connection** at home, if you do not have it in place at the moment.

The **Admin and Finance Offices** will remain open as long as it is safe to do so. As a precautionary measure, only ONE client will be allowed into the Finance Office at a time. We would appreciate your cooperation in this regard.

In accordance with the statement made by the President, we urge all parents and pupils to please **not travel** - provincially or abroad - if not absolutely necessary.

The Academic staff is currently working on some ideas for the younger pupils to keep themselves busy with at home during this period. This will be communicated later this week. We realise that not all parents will be able to take time off of work at such short notice, and you might have someone looking after your children at home during this time.

Remember there are some great activities, that does not cost a lot of money, which the children could do whilst at home. I am including some suggestions (Source: www.thebestideasforkids.com):

100+ INDOOR ACTIVITIES

CRAFTS

MAKE PAPER AIRPLANES
SALT PAINTING
MAKE SUNCATCHERS
MAKE SALT DOUGH
MAKE SPONGE STAMPS
MAKE A CEREAL BOX AQUARIUM
MAKE SCRATCH ART
MAKE YOUR OWN BOOKMARKS
PAINT PET ROCKS
MAKE RECYCLED CRAYONS
MAKE PAPER BOATS
FINGER PAINT
MAKE FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS
MAKE A BIRD FEEDER
MAKE PAPER BAG PUPPETS
MAKE HANDPRINT ART
MAKE A SCRAPBOOK
DECORATE T-SHIRTS
MAKE A THANKFUL JAR
PAINT LEAVES
MAKE A TIME CAPSULE
MAKE BUTTON ART
PAINT WITH WATERCOLORS
COLOR IN A COLORING BOOK
MAKE PAPER CRAFTS
BUILD A CARDBOARD CASTLE
MAKE TISSUE BOX MONSTERS
MAKE A TOILET PAPER ROLL
BUTTERFLY
STAMP WITH CELERY
MAKE CHALK ICE
MAKE PUFFY SIDEWALK PAINT
DRAW A SELF PORTRAIT
USE RUBBER STAMPS
DO SCRAPE PAINTING
PAINT A RECYCLED JAR
MAKE SUPERHERO COSTUMES

ACTIVITIES

MAKE PLAYDOUGH
MAKE SLIME
MAKE PLAY MUD
MAKE RAINBOW RICE
MAKE FAKE SNOW
MAKE A SENSORY BIN
MAKE A SENSORY BAG
BUILD A FORT
HAVE A PILLOW FIGHT
WRITE A STORY
MAKE ICE CREAM IN A BAG
MAKE GUMMY BEARS
MAKE FRUIT ROLL-UPS
HAVE A MOVIE DAY
PUT ON A FASHION SHOW
BAKE CUPCAKES OR MUFFINS
DO YOGA
BUILD AN OBSTACLE COURSE
MAKE DINNER TOGETHER
PLAY WITH MAGNETIC TILES
BUILD SOMETHING WITH LEGO
USE DOT MARKERS
BUILD A STACK OF CARDS
PUT ON A PUPPET SHOW
MAKE A TREASURE HUNT
INDOOR BOWLING
LEARN TO DRAW
PUT ON A PLAY
MAKE INDOOR HOPSCOTCH
DO A FAMILY CHORE TOGETHER
HAVE A DANCE PARTY
HAVE A TEA PARTY
PLAY WITH WATER IN A BIN
SET UP A PLAY STORE
MAKE A SOCK TOSS GAME
MAKE PERLER BEAD ART
WRITE IN A JOURNAL

GAMES

PLAY WOULD YOU RATHER
PLAY I SPY
PLAY SIMON SAYS
PLAY BOARD GAMES
PLAY HIDE AND SEEK
INDOOR SCAVENGER HUNT
PLAY BINGO
PLAY CARD GAMES
DO A PUZZLE
PLAY CHARADES
BUILD YOUR OWN GAME
PLAY FREEZE DANCE
PLAY HOT POTATO
PLAY MARBLES
KEEP THE BALLOON UP
PLAY DOMINOES
PLAY HANGMAN
PLAY TIC-TAC-TOE

EDUCATIONAL

READ BOOKS
DO A SCIENCE PROJECT
LEARN ORIGAMI
LEARN ABOUT A NEW ANIMAL
LEARN A NEW CARD GAME
LEARN TO SEW
LEARN TO KNIT
DO BRAIN TEASERS
LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE
LEARN ABOUT A COUNTRY

This could potentially become a wonderful time of bonding and 'rebooting'. Most of us live at such a fast pace. I think we could all benefit from pressing the 'reset button', and focussing on what is really important. I found the article below to be a good, thought-provoking read.

PEDIATRICIAN RECOMMENDS NO CORONAVIRUS BREAK PLAYDATES by Steve Silvestro, MD @zendocsteve

When the world is shutting down to prevent the spread of a pandemic disease, can other families still come over to play?

MY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAYDATES

- No indoor playdates
- No indoor crowded activities (bounce houses, gymnastics, etc.), even if they're still open
- No outdoor playdates on playground equipment (remember, 45 hours for three half-lives for virus to leave the surface)
- No outdoor playdates for kids who are prone to wrestling
- Avoid crowded outdoor activities
- If you're still set on getting together, here's my suggestion: Pick your best friend family. If you can trust them and they can trust you, agree that your families will only hang out with each other. This way you're at least minimizing possible exposure.

We're social creatures, especially our kids. So it is important to find ways to make the best of this once-in-a-lifetime situation. Make an effort to keep them active, happy, learning, creative, and growing as people during these next few weeks.

We got this—together. In the meantime, be well, find the fun, wash your hands, cough into a flexed elbow, sneeze into a tissue and look after your body.

I am ending off with some good news:

- China has closed down its last coronavirus hospital. Not enough new cases to support them.
- Doctors in India have been successful in treating Coronavirus. Combination of drugs used: Lopinavir, Retonovir, Oseltamivir along with Chlorphenamine. They are going to suggest same medicine, globally.
- Researchers of the Erasmus Medical Centre claim to have found an antibody against coronavirus.
- A 103-year-old Chinese grandmother has made a full recovery from COVID-19 after being treated for 6 days in. Wuhan, China.
- Apple reopens all 42 China stores,
- Cleveland Clinic developed a COVID-19 test that gives results in hours, not days.
- Good news from South Korea, where the number of new cases is declining.
- Italy is hit hard, experts say, only because they have the oldest population in Europe.
- Scientists in Israel likely to announce the development of a coronavirus vaccine.
- 3 Maryland coronavirus patients fully recovered; able to return to everyday life.
- A network of Canadian scientists are making excellent progress in COVID-19 research.
- A San Diego biotech company is developing a COVID-19 vaccine in collaboration with Duke University and National University of Singapore.
- Tulsa County's first positive COVID-19 case has recovered. This individual has had two negative tests, which is the indicator of recovery.

- All 7 patients who were getting treated for at Safdarjung hospital in New Delhi have recovered.
- Plasma from newly recovered patients from COVID-19 can treat others infected by COVID-19.

Source: https://www.goodthingsguy.com/opinion/coronavirus-15-good-news-stories-from-around-the-globe-show-things-do-get-better/?fbclid=IwAR1AkRI9mWmw4z4u2l_dtdzlwElz9G67zAG-f5enpsbnTkG08ap_buuOcu0

So, it is not all bad news. Let us care for each other and stay focused on the safety of those most vulnerable.

Yours sincerely,



Jacques Tredoux
Executive Head

