

To all the wonderful boys and girls in First Class,

We have reached the final two days of this school year. What a different type of school year it was for us all. We have missed teaching you, and learning from you, in our classrooms. We have all done our best to deal with the restrictions placed upon us as our country dealt with the Coronavirus Pandemic. Some of you have learned lots of valuable life skills while at home, such as gardening, baking, cleaning, hoovering and using a computer for emailing and research. Not all learning takes place in school - we learn new things every day when we communicate with others, do chores at home, investigate the outdoors and when we exercise.

We are not going to assign work for the last two days of First Class. Instead, we want you to tidy away your school belongings. Please put your school bags, pencil cases and books away safely until we return to school. Don't forget to pack your school readers away too as we will need them when we change your books again.

If we could ask you to do one thing over the summer holidays, it would be to please try to keep up your reading. We would like to draw your attention to the fantastic initiative Celbridge Library is running over the summer called 'Summer Stars National Reading Adventure 2020'. This programme helps children like you, all over Ireland, to read and write for pleasure. The programme is free and runs from 15 June until the end of August. Please see further details on our class web page. If you would just like to sit back and listen to a story, you can find links below to stories delivered by Niall de Burca, a storyteller who visited our school during the Readathon.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all your parents for their wonderful support during the school closure. We know it hasn't been easy for them to mind children, take care of the elderly, run a home and work from home, as well as helping children with school work. We really appreciate the time they spent downloading school work, ensuring it was done and then emailing photos of the work to us.

Everyone should take a good break from school work so that you all come back to school rested and enthusiastic to start another school year. We hope that you all have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in Rooms 7, 8 and 9 when we are all back at school.

Take care and keep safe,

Ms Bolton, Ms Corscadden and Ms Ryan

Links to Niall de Burca's stories:

Leprechaun! Leprechaun!

<https://www.facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService/videos/2693467044269852/>

The Pedlar Of Swaffham

<https://youtu.be/gg51nszjhj8>

How English Came To Be

<https://www.facebook.com/thtgalway/videos/727185931360115/>

The Three Druids

<https://youtu.be/bWcnZ3x7Qto>