

Dear Parent and Guardian

We received official notice from the Department of Education this morning that schools will not reopen on February 1st, and 'The closure of schools will be kept under ongoing review by Government'. As the extension to school closure was implied by the Taoiseach on Tuesday, our Academic Council met on Wednesday and we will continue our existing remote learning provision as long as required, with adjustments planned for exam years.

I would like to thank the KHPA, who I met with virtually last evening, for their feedback and support, and to all the students and staff for their continuous engagement, which is crucial to making this time productive and meaningful.

Rev. Campion sent out a recorded [Parent Assembly](#) during the week and I encourage you to watch it, if you have not yet had the chance. We are all challenged at the moment, some more than others, but we are all doing our best for each other, and that is the most important thing. We are here to support you, the parent, as well as the students, so do not hesitate to reach out, if we can help in any way. Rev. Campion can be contacted at chaplain@thekingshospital.ie.

ACADEMICS – [Siobhán Daly](#)

Remote Live Class Rules contained in Remote Learning & Teaching Policy [here](#)

Although the half hour classes with 15 minute breaks were intended to reduce screen fatigue and stretch the legs, some students are late getting to the next class. Please encourage your child to log on to the next class before they leave for their break so they are ready to go.

Form 3 – Timed Assessments

A separate email has gone to all Form 3 Students & Parents today detailing Timed Assessments, which will begin on February 8th.

TY – Subject Choice Month

A separate email has gone to all TY Students & Parents today outlining the process for choosing Form 5 subjects.

Form 6 – Additional 1 hour Class Contact time

A separate email has gone to all Form 6 Students & Parents today on the introduction of additional class contact time beginning Monday February 1st.

Paul O'Donoghue will run his next Well-being Coaching session, titled 'Positive Psychology' on Monday February 1st at 4pm. Students please email p.odonoghue@thekingshospital.ie for zoom link.

PASTORAL – [Cormac UaBruadair](#)

[Well-being Pathway](#)

Overseas Students

After meeting last evening with the overseas students who are still resident in the school, and listening to their views, the school will remain open to them over the mid-term break. Students who wish to go out to host families may do so with prior arrangement. It is not recommended that students return home, as they may face difficulties finding quarantine accommodation on their return.

Extra-curricular including SPORT & ARTS – [Derek Maybury](#) & [Kerrie O'Reilly](#)

Well done and thank you again to students and their families for engaging with so many of our activities, events and competitions since the beginning of January. Keep up the good work and if there are any activities or events you would like to see added to the schedule, please make contact with your Student Council representative - we are always open to ideas and would be delighted to have your input.

Exercise

Regular exercise as part of your daily routine is more important now than ever for physical and mental well-being. Our Sports Department continue to encourage everyone to try to accumulate 60+ minutes of daily moderate to vigorous physical activity/exercise.

Virtual Camino Walk

Well done also to everyone taking part in the Virtual Camino de Quarantine in aid of Focus Ireland and a big thanks to 5th year, Cian O'Dowd, for his promotional video and for setting up the [Fundraising Page](#) should anyone wish to donate to this cause.

Music And Speech & Drama

Classes are continuing to run in the afternoons between 2pm-5pm each day. Students who are unable to make the class at their allotted time must email their teacher or sportsandeca@thekingshospital.ie as far in advance as possible to reschedule.

Choir

The auditions for the virtual Choir project are now underway! Students who have expressed an interest have been emailed by Mr O'Regan with details of the song and backing tracks to complete their audition piece. These should be sent through to Mr O'Regan by Sunday evening, January 31st. There is a Zoom meeting arranged for 5:15pm on Tuesday for all students involved in the project and the details are in the email. Any student who wishes to sign up now is still welcome to do so, just send an email to c.oregan@thekingshospital.ie.

Jazz Band

Mr Hardy is arranging a virtual video recording of the Jazz Band playing their wonderful rendition of Blue Christmas. This will be a great showcase for the band and a lovely memento to have for years to come. Jazz Band members can find all of the details in their school emails regarding how to practice and record themselves. Please send your videos through no later than Friday, February 5th and contact Mr Hardy with any queries.

The full schedule of virtual Sports, Performing Arts, and ECA activities can be found here: bit.ly/ECA01Feb

Remember, if you would like to join a live class [sign up on SOCs](#) or email sportsandeca@thekingshospital.ie. To participate in the video classes at any time, head over to our:

- Youtube Channel: bit.ly/YoutubeKHOOfficial
- Dance class videos: bit.ly/KH_Dance
- Fitness class videos: bit.ly/KH_Sports

Also, if you are finding it a challenge to get your son or daughter engaged in the Extra-curricular programme, please email sportsandeca@thekingshospital.ie and a member of staff will be in touch.

I hope that you have an enjoyable weekend and experience some wonderment within your 5KM, which you have not discovered previously.

Yours,

Mark Ronan

Headmaster / Principal