



Dear Parents, Guardians and students,

The impact of Coronavirus pandemic has not left anyone untouched. Millions of students have been forced to sit at home during these trying times. Some have even had their School leaving exams cancelled. While for higher education the shift to online lectures and learning is still easier, for young kids, especially in primary classes, this period is especially challenging. Support the endeavours of your child's teachers and encourage as much as possible. This is a new situation for us too and we are learning and adapting as soon as possible.

As I informed you in my previous newsletter dated 10 April, we are ready to start our online classes on **20th April (Monday)**. A few parents had written about some do's and don'ts for the online lessons. I have compiled a list below.

### **Online School Classes: What to Do**

1. Motivate your child to attend the classes in the same spirit as he/she attends school.
2. Ensure that your child has had shower, breakfast and is 'ready for school' in school uniform.
3. Provide a dedicated place for the child to attend to his/her online classes without disturbance. Also please ensure that your child has the required bandwidth for the google meet class. All students and parents should be aware of how to log on to teamie and meet for their online lessons. Please send an email to [support@tanarata.net](mailto:support@tanarata.net) if you are not sure of your log in details.
4. If you do not have a spare computer, then share your phone with your child so as to help him connect with his/her teachers in the session.
5. Explain to your child why this is important, talk about the Coronavirus epidemic and basic safety measures.
6. Ensure that there is no disturbance when your ward is attending his 'school'. For every practical purpose, the child should be made to understand the importance of the class and how he/she must pay attention.
7. Follow the time table shared by the schools diligently and assist the teachers because they too are trying hard and face similar concerns as you do during this period of MCO..
8. The teacher might suggest for the students camera to be on or off depending on the bandwidth. As all businesses and schools are online, internet speed has become slow. Please keep the microphone off unless the teacher has specified otherwise. All questions can be put in the chat or by raising a hand just like in the physical class.

### **Online School Classes: What Not to Do**

1. Do Not 'listen in' your child's classes. Just like in schools, the intervention of the parents is not required while the teacher is conducting the class. It may make your child overly conscious of asking queries from his/her teacher. If it is absolutely impossible for you to be in another room while your child is attending his online classes then make absolute conscious effort to be as silent and inconspicuous as possible.
2. Don't let your child 'skip' the online classes or suggest that everything would be repeated once the school reopens. It is important that your child pays attention to the lectures.
3. Do Not criticise or mock the online classes or schools efforts. Please remember that for children, especially young kids, these are troubling times. They would not understand the seriousness of the situation.

4. Don't keep the phone busy. It would be best if you tell all that your phone would be unavailable during the scheduled times. There are Do Not Disturb features that are also available on your devices. Ensure that the feature is active during the time the class is on.

We are still not sure when schools will reopen even if the MCO is lifted on 28 April. Please read the link below. We will make the most of the resources we have to ensure that teaching and learning can continue till schools reopen.

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2020/04/16/ex-deputy-health-minister-tells-when-schools-should-reopen/>

We urge you to stay positive and safe. We shall overcome!

Best Regards,

**Barnali Guha**



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