June 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

As the school year closes I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and hard work over the last few months. This has been a strange and difficult year for everyone. It has been a challenging time for us all as we have had to adapt to the ‘new normal’. I wish to thank you all for your efforts in supporting the children’s home learning programme. You have been amazing and we cannot thank you enough.

Thank-you for keeping us informed and up to date with all of what has been going on during this crisis, sending in photos of the children, videos of them and brightening our day. We all have missed the children so much over the last few months.

At this moment in time it is hard to predict what schools will look like in September. We are hoping that social distancing restrictions will once again be eased and we can get back to our normal way of school life with some minor changes in place. I will issue a detailed breakdown of any changes to you in early August, prior to our return date for **P7** pupils which is the **24th of August**.

Some of these changes may include:

* Arrangements regarding staggered drop-off and collection times which may be necessary and we will be shared with you in due course.
* Parents will **not** be able to access the school building (*further guidance will be issued in August)*
* Children will wear their school uniform as normal but may be able to alternate this with their PE gear to allow for regular cleaning.
* There will be restrictions on what items pupils can bring into school ( *i.e no school bags or reusable lunch boxes may be brought into school- further guidance will be issued in August.)*

Thank you

To our teachers I must say a huge thanks, it hasn’t been easy changing how you teach a class full of children to teaching online and remote learning. We are blessed with a dedicated and committed staff.

Our classroom assistants have as always been amazing, supporting children, helping teachers, without them we would be lost.

Colette keeps the school ticking over ensuring bills are paid and everything is ordered and ready for our return in September.

Margaret has kept the school spotless through this whole crisis.

On behalf of the whole school staff, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your wonderful support throughout the year. I wish you all a healthy, happy and fun packed summer break and I look forward to welcoming you all back to Our Lady of Lourdes in the new academic year. Wishing you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer.

Best wishes to you all,

Mrs Diane Mc Cann

Acting Principal