



28th January, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of week 3 of remote teaching and learning I want to say a big **WELL DONE** to all. The levels of pupil engagement with remote learning are excellent. As a school, we have high expectations of our pupils. However, we are also acutely aware and appreciate that everyone's circumstances are very different. All that we ask is that you do your best. Although our school is 'closed' we are here to offer help and support. Please reach out if needed.

This week is **Catholic Schools Week**. As a catholic school, our school is a community of faith, learning, love, hope and resilience. During Catholic Schools week we celebrate how we are called to be communities of faith and resilience, through our thoughts, words and actions. In more regular times, Catholic Schools week would be celebrated by the school as a whole and by all classes individually. Should you wish to explore the themes of Catholic School week you are invited to visit: <https://www.catholicschools.ie/catholic-schools-week-2021-resources/>

Parent/ teacher meetings continue today. Staff will be in a position to assign work, provide feedback and answer queries up to 12pm today. After that time, they will be engaging with Parent/Teacher meetings. Thank you to all parents who spoke with staff yesterday. Your words of support are always welcome and help guide our efforts. It is so important for children to see school and home working together for their benefit and Parent/Teacher meetings are a perfect opportunity for children to experience this.

Bishop William Crean has written to all schools in relation to the **celebration of sacraments**. He has outlined the following:

- All celebrations of sacraments will be deferred until May or June, at the earliest.
- Both First Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated by the priests of the parish.
- Due to the unavoidable difficulty in planning, it is strongly recommended that parents defer the purchase of new 'outfits' for their child until they know the likely date of the celebration.
- All celebrations will be arranged in the light of the prevailing Public Health Guidelines
- Further guidance will be forthcoming in tandem with evolving circumstances.

We heard this week that restrictions will be in place for some time to come. We don't have a definite date yet for when schools will be re-opening. As always, we will keep you in the loop as soon as any further information is known.

For now, and most importantly, stay safe and take care.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Fiona O'Callaghan

Principal