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Summer 2020 newsletter

End of year report: Every parent should have received their child's end of year report, calendar and booklist during the week. These were collected by parents or issued in the post on Tuesday. If you have not received yours, please inform us on the above email. Please note that booklists will be available to view on the school website.

Money Collection: From September onwards, we will be collecting money using online payments. Towards the end of the summer, you will receive a text link/email from the school which will instruct you how to pay. If you do not have the means to pay online, we will accept cash. However, as you can understand, we are trying to limit the handling of cash from a security and hygiene perspective and would really appreciate your support on this. Arts and crafts fees have been reduced for next year by €5 to reflect the time lost this term.

Book Rental: Many thanks to everyone who returned their books during the week. If you find any books during the summer that were mistakenly not returned, we will take them from you at the end of August. Again, given the difficult circumstances that families find themselves in, we have reduced book rental for next year by €5. Book rental money will be collected in August with the arts and crafts money via epayments. Only those who pay, will be allowed to participate in the scheme.

Classes for next year: Teachers have been allocated to the following classes for September. Junior Infants: Mrs O'Meara, Senior Infants: Miss O'Grady, 1st Class: Mr Murray, 2nd Class: Mr Ryan 3rd Class: Miss White, 4th Class: Miss Lynch, 5th Class: TBD, 6th Class: Mr Shanagher. Special Education Teachers: Mrs O'Sullivan, Miss Martin, Miss Gallagher, Mrs Tierney, Ms Beary and Miss Fitzgerald. Special Needs Assistants: Bernadette Carr, Ciara O'Dwyer, Miriam O'Sullivan, Irene McCarthy and Niamh Meehan.

6th Class Graduation: We wish our 6th class every success and happiness in their studies in Secondary School and their futures. With them, we also say goodbye to their families that we have worked closely with over the years. To mark the occasion of their graduation, we held a Zoom ceremony on Wednesday which we hope highlighted the wonderful contribution these boys and their families made to our school over the past 8 years. We thank you for your cooperation and wish you all of the best

Sacraments: We have no date for the postponed sacraments as of yet. As soon as we do, we will be in touch.

Dell Computer Leasing Scheme: This is a leasing scheme where for approximately €11 per month you will lease a device for 36 months, at which point you will own it. The device in question is a Dell Chromebook 3100 2in1 BTO Configuration which doubles as both a laptop and touch screen device. If you want to express interest in the scheme, please review the relevant note in the Newsletter section of our website for more information.

Return to school: We will continue to prepare for a safe return to school over the summer months and are awaiting further guidance from the Department of Education to assist us with this. In the meantime, we have invested in additional sanitising stations and have upgraded our handwashing facilities. We may have to adjust how we enter and exit the school in the mornings and evenings among other ideas that are currently under consideration. Suffice to say, we will be doing our utmost to safely recommence formal teaching in line with Department of Education guidance. I will be in contact with you prior to reopening to update you on plans and procedures.

Handwashing and following public health guidelines: Ahead of a return to school, we would ask that your children have a routine of regularly washing their hands, as this is something that we will be asking of them. It will be a case of wash your hand properly, shake the excess water off and then dry. It would be helpful if this routine was engrained in them at home prior to starting. Click here for HSE advice on washing hands.

It would also be helpful if when purchasing resources for the return to school that each child had a set of wipes and hand sanitiser in their own bags should they need to use them during the day. Again, we are trying to emphasise the need for each child to take responsibility for their own hygiene where possible.

Thanking you: I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for working with your children so well over the past 13 weeks. It was a hugely difficult and turbulent time that forced us to adapt and change routines so rapidly, yet the learning continued because of your commitment to your children's education. We have never relied on you so much, and cannot be more appreciative for your support. All going well, we look forward to returning to more normal circumstances come the 27th of August.

Wishing you all a lovely Summer break.

Sincerely,

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Anthony Liddane and staff.