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Partial Reopening of School

09/03/2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are your family are keeping safe and well. As you are aware, the Government have confirmed that 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th classes will return to school on the 15th of March.

Juniors, Seniors, First and Second class pupils have been attending school for the past eight days and it has been tremendous to see them meet their friends again and restart in-school learning. We look forward to seeing your boys from next week.

I would like to thank all staff, parents and most importantly pupils for the dedication and commitment shown to remote working and learning over the past eight weeks. The attitude displayed by everyone to these difficult circumstances has been really positive.

Regarding, returning next week, please be reminded that supervision will be provided from 8.35am on the school yards. School begins at 8.50. In the morning time, unless you are passing through to the Girls' school, you will not be permitted past the inner gates at the front of the school or past the end of the green fence at the rear entrance.

Parents should **maintain social distance and wear face coverings at all times** while in the vicinity of the school. Given the higher risk of transmitting the virus, it is important that we adhere to this practice along with the **avoidance of congregating with other parents** at all times. The Department of Education and Skills have issued extensive guidance on preventing the spread of the virus in their 'Response Plan for Reopening Primary Schools'. Please refer to section 5 of this document for more information, by clicking here.

It is critically important that you **do not send your child to school if they are sick and/or showing symptoms** of the Covid-19 virus.

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is important to know and recognise the symptoms.

They are:

- High temperature
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties
- Loss of smell, of taste or distortion of taste

Infection with the virus that causes COVID-19 can cause illness, ranging from mild to severe, and, in some cases, can be fatal. It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show. They can be similar to symptoms of cold and flu.

If you have any common symptoms of COVID-19 (coronavirus), self-isolate (stay in your room) and phone your family doctor straight away to see if you need a COVID-19 test. Other people in your household will need to restrict their

movements (stay at home). Please click here to view a HSE quick guide to isolation for children from 3 months to 13 years of age.

You will find further important information for returning to school below.

Schoolbooks

As books will need to be isolated for a time before they are used. Consequently, we are asking that they are dropped to school prior to the weekend.

3rd & 4th classes will be asked to return their books Thursday during the school day, up to 3.30pm.

5th & 6th classes will return their books on Friday during the school day, up to 3.30pm.

They need to be placed in a labelled plastic bag and left to the right of the main reception door in the marked drop off points. This will greatly help restarting in-school education next week.

Return to Education Form

Please complete the 'Return to Educational Facility' form which has been messaged to you. It is mandatory that this is completed ahead of returning on Monday.

ICT Devices

Families who borrowed devices should return them with your child on Monday.

Wellbeing Resources

The Department of Education have developed a suite of wellbeing resources that are available for parents, pupils and teachers at this time. Please click here to access the resource site.

Parent/School Communication

Please be aware that for the foreseeable future, all communication with the school should be by telephone, Class Dojo or other online means.

Sanitiser packs

As per term 1, please provide your child with a sanitiser pack including a small bottle of hand sanitiser, tissues, a hand towel and wipes in sealed bag. This will help to reduce movement within the classroom during the school day and promote good personal hygiene.

Our full reopening plan is available on our school website or by clicking here.

Wishing you and your family the very best.

Sincerely,

Anthony Liddane

Principal