



**9<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank you for your continued support over the last twelve weeks.

As a staff we would like to thank you for all your hard work in supervising and supporting home learning and keeping in touch with school.

As lockdown begins to ease we have moved from isolation to uncertainty as to what exactly the future will look like. Work, school, child care... we all have the same questions but none of us have any definitive answers.

So I apologise that at this stage we cannot tell you with any great certainty what school will look like in September.

However, I can assure you we are working away planning and preparing for our return in September. Your child's health, safety and happiness will be our top priority but as Public Health Agency and Government advice is being reviewed every three weeks our plans cannot be firmed up until the end of the Summer.

### **Parent Survey**

Parents have been very positive about our remote Home School Learning. However, we appreciate all families will have had different experiences. Peter Weir has suggested that this is likely to be an integral part of schooling in September.

Therefore, we have devised a short survey for parents and we would really appreciate it if all parents would complete it. We really do want your opinions on our Home School Learning provision, so please do take a few minutes to complete it - it will help us as a staff in our planning and delivery of the curriculum and prepare for your child(ren) returning to school in September.

### **School Reports**

School reports will be emailed out to parents on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. Any parent wishing a paper copy should contact their child's class teacher

Due to the uncertainty of how year groups will be phased into school in September or over what time period, class teachers for the new school year will not be on school reports. We feel it would be unfair for children to expect to see a certain teacher and then discover this was not the case.

### **Transition**

The last week or two in June we usually spend a lot of time reflecting on what the children have achieved during the year and discussing what they are excited or worried about regarding moving on to the next year group.

Obviously this is not going to be possible this year and we know this is concerning some of you as parents. To this end we have put the following in place-

- On the Year 7 Home Learning page there will be a series of three "It's your Move" activities for children to complete to help prepare them for secondary school
- There will be designated areas on the school website for children starting Nursery and Year 1
- Year 2-6 will have messages posted on their Home Learning pages by the staff who will be teaching, working with and supporting their year groups in September.
- When school resumes we would like children's current teachers to be in a position to support them in their return to school.

### **School Uniform**

Omagh County PS school uniform for the Autumn Term has always been a shirt and tie. Due to the current pandemic and to adhere to current advice regarding frequent handwashing and washing of clothes to minimise the risk of infection the Board of Governors have agreed to relax uniform regulation and allow children if they wish, to wear polo shirts rather than a shirt and tie to school up until the end of December 2020. This is only temporary as a result of COVID 19.

### Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be eligible for free school meals applications will become available later this month.

### School Transport

If your child gets a school bus, School Transport forms are now available. It is essential that you apply every year to ensure your child has a seat on the bus.

### Food Bank Donations

At the end of the school year staff usually give their class a small gift to the boys and girls. As we will not see the children in person this year staff have decided to give a donation to the HRCA Food Bank instead.

### Year 7 End of Year

It is with great sadness that we are unable to hold our annual leavers assembly. Class of 2020 hoodies are currently being delivered to children and we would like to mark the occasion in some way. With government guidance allowing only a maximum of 6 people from different households to meet outside at present we feel it would be disappointing for children to organise an event that would possibly not take place.

However, as Stormont announces changes to easing lockdown weekly we will continually review the situation and remain optimistic that we will be able to mark the end of our Year 7 children's primary career with an event.

### Returns and Pick Ups

As school ended so abruptly on the 20<sup>th</sup> March we would like to arrange for **one adult from each household** to come into school to collect PE kits, coats and school books.

We would also like parents to return any reading books, library books or any other text books they may have at home.

We will also accept clean school uniforms for recycling.

We will operate a one-way system whereby parents will drop off books at the front door and then proceed into the school assembly hall to collect children's belongings and then leave through the fire exit. Adults should collect belongings for all children in their family.

### Collection Timetable

Time	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June
9-10am	Year 7	Year 3
10-11am	Year 6	Year 2
11-12noon	Year 5	Year 1
1-2pm	Year 4	Nursery

Please do complete our parent survey, we will text you the link as soon as it becomes live - we would really appreciate your input.

Stay safe and well everyone.

Kind Regards,

Jill