

St. Patrick's Senior National School

Skerries,

Co. Dublin.

Tel. / Fax. 8490945

Principal Teacher: Ms. Michelle Keane

Deputy Principal: Mrs. Kim McGregor

23rd March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you are all keeping well in these unprecedented times. A letter was issued to all schools from the General Secretary of the Department of Education and Skills following the directive to close all schools. The main message of the letter is that in order to minimise the impact on teaching and learning, schools would enable children to keep in touch with their learning.

The principals and deputy principals in the six primary schools in Skerries have been consulting during the last week so as to try our best to support the children in our schools in a realistic and sustainable manner. As leaders of the schools we are cognisant of the fact that it is highly probable that we will not be returning on the initial proposed date of 30th March.

If this becomes a reality each school will endeavour to continue supplying suggested work for the children in the format that best suits the age group and other varying structures/policies in our schools. Teaching staff have been made aware that this may become necessary going forward and we are all working as a team to facilitate same. Teachers have been mindful when setting work that in a classroom setting different methodologies in which teachers are trained are applied and that input from Additional Support Teachers both in and out of the classroom aids learning. Children should be just asked to complete what they are able to do with reasonable effort. As teachers we are also aware that situations in families may be very different at this time with regards to childminding, where parents are still working etc. so we will rely on your personal judgement as parents as to how much of the set work is completed. Your child's wellbeing and that of your family are paramount.

When the schools reopen decisions will be made as to what work needs to be prioritised.

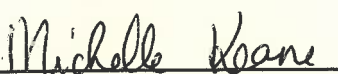
The relevant agencies of the state will make the call as to when schools will reopen, for the good of all in our communities. As individual schools we will endeavour to contact you but in the event of our current text services becoming overloaded and hence a delay, then please be guided by the messages being delivered by the National Media.


On behalf of Fr. Melvyn Mullins P.P., please note the following message:

'In keeping with the guidelines issued by the healthcare authorities, the celebration of the sacraments of First Holy communion and Confirmation has been postponed until we are advised it is safe to do so. We are aware that this is a disappointment to families and our children but as soon as we are permitted to go ahead with these celebrations we will keep you informed of any due dates and arrangements.'

Once again, we wish both you and your families all the best and look forward to working with you all again soon.

Kind regards,


Michelle Keane
Principal Teacher


Kim McGregor
Deputy Principal