

Scoil Lios na Groí

Lisnagry National School



Dear Parents,

As we near the end of week two I am delighted that all the children have settled in so well and it has been wonderful to see some semblance of normality return and to see happy smiling faces in classes. Let us hope it will be a happy and safe year for all of us. Thanks to all of you for your co-operation with all our logistics and routines so far especially for drop off and collection. Can I just remind you of the importance of maintaining a distance of 2 metres and if you cannot do so to please wear a face covering. It is amazing how quickly new school routines have become part of our day. The children are incredibly resilient and have adapted to the new routines without a problem. I would like to acknowledge the huge work done by you in having the children practice good hand hygiene and physical distancing. It has made our return so much easier. We are all learning and, no doubt, we will encounter challenges as we progress through the year. So many of you have already contacted me to inform me that you are keeping your children home from school as a precaution when dealing with Covid 19 symptoms. We thank you most sincerely for this cautious approach. It is what will keep us safe.

I wish to advise you of certain procedures that will apply if a pupil in our school tests positive for Covid-19. If that were to occur, the public health department of the HSE will carry out a public health risk assessment and will decide on the appropriate actions to be taken. The school does not have a direct role in this decision making process. The public health risk assessment may indicate that contact tracing is necessary. To facilitate this, the school may be asked to furnish the names and contact details of pupils and their parents/guardians who are close contacts of a confirmed case. If this information is requested, the school will process the information in compliance with data protection laws. The information will be given in a secure manner only to named individuals and only the information necessary for the contact tracing will be given. It is the HSE and not the school who will carry out any necessary contact tracing.

The staff would like to wish all the boys and girls who are making their First Holy Communion on Saturday the very best and hope they have a lovely day. They have had to wait for a long time for this and I know it is going to be all the more special.

In accordance with the DES returning to school guidelines, all children will be taught the Stay Safe programme once again this term. Attached you will find information about our new individualised spelling programme "Spellings for me" that we are starting this year for students in 2nd to 6th class. There is an online element to this programme which the children will learn to do in school. It will be part of their homework over the next few weeks.

We will return to some oral homework in all classes next week as we ease the children back into the homework routine. Some reading/word work, spellings and tables will be given. We will also continue to use our online learning platform Google Classroom this year. Class teachers will make contact with you regarding same.

We are looking forward to a happy, healthy and safe first term.

Best regards,

MICHAEL FEENEY.