



Dear Parents,

The first term of the academic year 2020/21 has been very different. Your co-operation has helped to make it as safe and happy as possible. The children have been terrific in complying with challenging requests and, on behalf of my colleagues I would like to extend a huge thanks to you and your children for understanding the situation and for doing as much as possible to keep the community of Lisnagry National School safe. We understand that there are lots of activities that we have not been able to bring to the children and we are disappointed, however, from the children's point of view I think they have enjoyed being back with their friends and they have worked hard this term. I think they are happy and are not fearful of the virus despite all the new sanitizing and washing procedures. Like lots of things in life, it has become part of our routine.

Thank you for your co-operation and participation in our Parent Teacher meetings over the phone last week. It was a new approach for us all and the feedback has been very positive. As always, should you have any concern about your child, we are always only an email or a phone call away and while it isn't possible to meet you in person for now, we are still available.

My colleagues have been incredible in accommodating all the new routines, and, although we miss the collegiality of the staffroom, we have also made the best of it in an effort to keep everybody safe. On your behalf I would like to sincerely thank them for their hard work and co-operation.

We plan to make December as enjoyable and as celebratory as possible for the children. We want to make sure that our pupils feel that "Christmas Spirit" in a year when we all need it more than ever. We have our decorations up early and we plan on playing festive music as they arrive to school. While we won't be able to invite you all to come to the school to watch a play or hear some carols, each class will be preparing something with a Christmas theme and we will record these and make them available to you on Google Classroom. Given the year we have had we have a special event organized for all our pupils on Monday 21st December. It is being supported by our Parents Association and our Board of Management. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers on the day.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity in supporting "Team up for Theo" which is a very worthy cause. Your contributions were overwhelming and a fantastic €1,300 was raised last Friday. As in other years we encourage everyone to reach out to those in our community who are most in need and to remind us that they are in our thoughts at this difficult time. Well done to all our pupils who wrote letters to the residents in Riverbrook Nursing Home. This Christmas we are going to support "Help the Homeless Limerick" which is a fantastic local charity that provide food, clothes, blankets etc. to people living on the streets. We would be delighted to collect a small donation for this charity on 21st December.



Many thanks to our Parents Association for all their fundraising efforts. Our 2021 school calendar is available to purchase on Aladdin for €10. Thank you to those who have already ordered one. If you wish to order a calendar please use the epayment link on Aladdin. Last orders this week. As always, the calendar includes class photographs for each month and makes a lovely Christmas gift. Our Bumper Split the Pot draw will take place on Friday 18th December. For this special Christmas edition we will have a number of winners. You can enter using the epayment link on Aladdin. €10 per entry. Thank you for supporting the school in all its fundraising endeavors.

The excitement is building in the school this week as we eagerly await next Sundays All-Ireland Hurling Final. It is so special for our school with two past pupils Tom and Dan Morrissey lining up for Limerick. We wish them and Limerick the very best of luck against Waterford. "Bring Liam Home" Luimneach Abú.

The school closes on Tuesday 22nd December at 12.30pm for Christmas Holidays and reopens on Wednesday 6th January 2021. Once again we want to thank you all for your help and support in navigating our way through these challenging times. We look forward with hope to a better 2021 and those magical vaccines! On behalf of the staff and the Board of Management I would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas. Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir.

Mise le Meas,

MICHAEL FEENEY.