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# Scoil Lios na Groí

Lisnagry National School



#### Dear Parents.

Ahead of welcoming our pupils in Junior Infants to 2nd Class back on Monday, I would like to mention the following points:

### 1. Arrival and Dismissal of pupils

The arrangements we had in place for Term 1 remain in place for the arrival and dismissal of pupils. At this time, we are not changing anything to the arrangements we had before Christmas as we are taking into account that our 3rd to 6th class pupils will be joining us again on the 15th March if that is the direction we receive from the Department of Education at that point. Here is a reminder of those arrangements:

Start Time: In an effort to limit the number of people waiting in the school grounds in the morning we are bringing the children into school in alphabetical order.

9-9.10am: If your surname begins with A-L

9.10-9.20am: If your surname begins with: M-Z

Please do not drop your children to school before 9am as there will be no outdoor supervision in the mornings. Children use the same designated doors they used before Christmas. Children must sanitise at the door and proceed to their classrooms where their teachers will supervise them. Please rest assured that myself and the support teachers will be very visible in the mornings to ease the children in and to guide them in a calm and safe way into their rooms.

Home Time: Similarly, for home time, in an effort to limit the number of people waiting outside the school, we have staggered dispersal times.

1.50pm: Junior Infants A+B

2pm: Senior Infants A+B

2.50pm: Children with no siblings-i.e: only children (1st +2nd)

3pm: Remaining students (1st +2nd)

Please use the "Stop and Drop" system and wear your mask as you approach the school and leave the school grounds once they come into school. We strongly ask that you respect social distancing at all times and avoid congregating outside the school.

## 2. Focus on Wellbeing

We have been again directed to focus on the wellbeing of the children and slowly help them to settle back into school after a turbulent few months. We are also mindful of the many houses that will have some children back at school and others continuing with remote learning. To that end, we will limit the amount of homework that is sent home while we settle the children back into school life.

#### 3. Focus on Preventative Measures

All teachers will be reminding and reinforcing the importance of hand and respiratory hygiene and social distancing with the children when they return on Monday through various lessons. Having spent such a long period of time in their homes without seeing other children outside their households/bubbles, the children will need to be reminded again of the importance of our behaviour in terms of preventing the spread of the virus when they return to school. I would ask that you all spend a bit of time talking to your child about this over the weekend. I have also attached 2 posters for you to read and keep somewhere visible that you can refer to in the coming weeks.

## 4. Focus on knowing the Symptoms of Covid-19

As a school community, we did so well in Term 1 to keep our school open and everyone involved in it safe and well. This was entirely down to the hard work and commitment of us all between pupils, staff, parents and the wider school community. The most important factor that helped us keep the doors open was the quick reaction of you as parents in recognising the potential symptom of Covid-19 and immediately taking the necessary precautions. I have so many examples of times when this happened and you as parents didn't hesitate to let us know and keep your child at home until you were sure that they were safe to return to us. I can't explain how grateful we were and continue to be that we have such a respectful and responsible parent body. As we reopen the doors again on Monday and really look forward to seeing the children coming back to us, I would ask that you continue as you did before Christmas to be on high alert for any symptoms your child might display and to let us know so that we can also react appropriately here. If we all play our part and do the right thing, we will be in a position to keep the school open and welcome the remainder of our children back on 15th March. A letter from the Deputy Chief Medical Officer is also attached for your information. Here is a link to some videos on guidance and advice on returning to school.

https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a04fc-advice-for-students-and-their-families/

5. The HSE Return to school parental declaration form must be completed for all pupils in Junior Infants to 2nd classes that are returning before Monday. This is available on our school website under the Covid 19 information section or you can access with the link below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-UlxOMSds0ClePn418FSfLDTzJ62Ep9Dp8xTBVyE0IFUN0xZNVdDVlpBUDJQMlhGQ0kxN UxVRDBHSi4u

As always, thank you sincerely for your help and co-operation throughout this unpredictable time. The remote learning for 3rd to 6th classes will continue until they are back in person to us and we are very much looking forward to that happening, hopefully on March 15th.

Please come back to me or any of the class teachers if you have any concerns or questions.

Kind regards,

Michael Feeney

Principal.