Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin our second week of the new school year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you sincerely for your continued support and cooperation as we work together for the overall benefit of our school community.

The first full week of school has concluded very positively. I am particularly pleased with how well all our 1st year students have settled into secondary school life, as well as students who are new to other year groups. It is encouraging to see our students returning with enthusiasm and a positive mindset.

Key Reminders and Updates:

Arrival to School:

Most students arriving to school will enter by the main front door. While the school foyer will be open, the doors to the school building will not open until 8.30am. Classes commence at 8.45am.

If you are dropping your son/daughter to school by car, please use the designated ONE-WAY system. Entry is via the Stamullen Gate and exit is via the Avenue Gate. Please avoid dropping children off at the main front door. We have noticed a significant increase in vehicular traffic, and we are mindful of the potential risk to student safety.

Attendance:

Regular and consistent school attendance is encouraged and expected. If your son/daughter is absent from school, please use the VS Ware app to communicate with us.

Studyclix:

As in previous years the Board of Management has continued to provide the funding for all students to avail of this platform and excellent learning resource during the school year 2026 / 2027. This means that Studyclix is free to all students. On 30th September training will be provided for all students in using the platform as effectively as they can. Studyclix is an invaluable resource to assist students in all years and across all programmes in establishing work and study routines and being able to manage the challenges of school life and progress with their learning. **All students in Gormanston can access Studyclix using their own dedicated school email address.**

Uniform:

Mr Dunne, Deputy Principal, and I carried out a uniform check recently. The main issues occur with older students in senior years. If students choose to wear navy leggings or navy tracksuit bottoms, they must be the ones as specified on the uniform list and must include the school crest. We want to avoid a situation where we are requesting that students go home and change into correct uniform. The option of wearing the standard school uniform (trousers or skirt) is still available.

The traditional school uniform is acceptable to wear with correct black shoes/trainers. Students wearing the PE uniform must also wear the correct, bespoke bottoms (tracksuit or leggings) and top. It is expected that the correct bottoms (tracksuit or leggings), top and black shoes/trainers are worn.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD KNOWS WHAT IS EXPECTED REGARDING UNIFORM

Upcoming Events:

Open Evening: Thursday 17th September from 5pm. More information on this event will follow.

Parents Association AGM: Tuesday 22nd September from 6pm. The meeting will take place here in school, in the Teanglann building. It will include a presentation from a selection of school staff. I would very much encourage you to attend.

Our Students – Our Expectations:

- Be kind to yourself. Be kind to others.
- Show respect and bring your manners to school.
- Arrive on time to school and to class.
- Wear the correct school uniform. You will be challenged.
- The school is a mobile phone free zone. You will be challenged.
- Bring the best version of yourself to school each day.

Congratulations:

Finally, I would like to congratulate the Leaving Certificate class of 2026 on their recent examination results. They did themselves proud and I was delighted with their achievements. I wish them all every success in their future endeavours!

Thank you once again for your partnership and support. Together, we will ensure that this is a successful and rewarding school year for all our students. As already stated let's hope this year concludes with the very positive emergence of a new school building under construction!

Dermot Lavin

Principal