



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have helped our School Community meet the many challenges of the past year. It certainly seems a long time ago that we welcomed back our P7 children on the 24th August and a lot has occurred since then.

Firstly, and most importantly, I would like to acknowledge the fantastic children in our school, whose spirit, resilience and positivity have shone brightly this year. I would also like to thank all parents, grandparents and extended family members for their efforts and support during Lockdown and for their understanding and observation of our health and safety protocols that have been in place. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful staff, who have met every challenge with one abiding thought in mind, that being the health, wellbeing and best interests of the children in their care.

Our priority this year, like every school, has been meeting the challenges of the Pandemic. However, we have also been able to continue to progress many areas of school life. Our opportunities for Outdoor Learning have increased dramatically with the addition of our Pirate Ship outdoor learning area and our vegetable growing beds. Our continued partnership with Healthy Kidz has meant that the children's physical and emotional well-being continue to be prioritised. This year's Peace 4 project, which for the first time included every child in the school, has been a huge success, giving staff and pupils alike the opportunity to take their learning outside with a focus on science and technology activities. We have received a significant amount of funding through the Peace4 project this year and we hope to have a brand new Outdoor Stage installed in our main playground along with some extra seating for the children over the summer months.

As we look forward to September, we very much hope that we will be able to continue to return to more normality. This however, will depend on the Health situation at that time. I will endeavour to update parents of arrangements for September as soon as EA guidance is issued.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone connected to St Colman's Bann PS a very safe, happy and fun-filled summer holiday.

Mr Tighe.