



Principal: Mr I Matthews, MEd., BEd.(Hons), PQH (NI)

24th November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope you and your family are well in the current challenging circumstances. As a school we remain focused on ensuring that all members of the school community remain safe and on delivering a high quality education for your child. I want to thank your son/daughter for their efforts in adapting to the measures in place in school to keep everyone safe and thank you for your ongoing support of the school in this process.

Please see below for important information on forthcoming events and areas of school life:

Revised dates for Staff Development Days

- The staff development days planned for before and after the Halloween holidays were postponed. The revised dates for these days are **Friday 4th December** and **Friday 18th December**. Pupils should not attend on these days.
- This means Term 1 will now finish for all pupils on Thursday 17th December at 12pm.

SIMS Parent App

- Thank you to all those parents who have already registered and downloaded the SIMS parent app, we hope you are finding the range of information it provides useful.
- A reminder for parents who have not yet registered for the app that from the end of Term 1 this will be our primary means of communicating with you and our existing text message system will no longer operate. Please ensure you are registered to receive letters, academic reports, conduct and attendance information for your child. Support is available from the school to assist with the registration process.

School Winter Examinations

- School examinations will take place for all pupils from **Monday 7th – Friday 11th December**. Detailed examination timetables for each year group have been distributed to all pupils and are also available via the SIMS Parent App and school website. Please note that unless your child missed an exam for any reason they are not required to attend on Friday 11th December (with the exception of Year 12 Art pupils)

Covid procedures

- Thank you to all our pupils and parents for their efforts in ensuring the risk of transmission of infection in school is minimised. Please continue to follow the advice below and encourage your child to do so:
- Pupils should wash their hands on arrival in school and regularly throughout the day.
- Face masks should be worn in the corridor at all times.
- Pupils should remain in their designated areas at break and lunchtime and avoid close contact with other pupils.
- Parents are asked not to enter the school grounds or visit the school unless absolutely necessary.
- Parents should notify the school of a confirmed positive case for their child, via phone or using the email address 5210127Covid19@c2kni.net
- A copy of the Department of Education advice for parents and carers is attached to this message and available via our website.

Children in Need

- Many thanks to all those who supported our fundraising effort for Children in Need. This raised over £550 for a very worthy cause. Thank to our senior prefects for their help in organising the event.

Anti-Bullying

- Thanks to all pupils and staff who participated in our video for Anti-Bullying week, which is available to view via the school website and Facebook pages.
- Further work will take place in the coming weeks as part of a review of our Anti-Bullying policy and procedures. Pupils and parents will be consulted during this process.
- A copy of "Bullying: A Positive Response – A guide for Parents" has been sent out via SIMS Parent App and is available via our website.

Please remember that full details of dates and events are available via the school website and app and the SIMS Parent App.

As a school community we continue to face challenging and uncertain times. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you in the coming weeks and months. We will continue to strive to make your child's school experience as normal as possible, providing a range of learning opportunities to support your child in fulfilling their potential.

Kind regards,



Ian Matthews

Principal