

St.Mary's Primary School  
Caledon Road  
Aughnacloy  
BT69 6AJ  
Principal: Mrs Mairead Leonard B.Ed (Hons) PQH



19/6/20

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you all well. We could never have anticipated when we left the school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March that that would be the last time we would see the children this school year. We miss them terribly.

We sincerely appreciate how hard you have worked with your child since the end of March. It is something that we will never forget and I hope we never have to repeat. The hardest part for us has been not being able to see the children, to hear their stories, to watch them grow and help them learn and discover. You have my word that we will work diligently to bring all children to where they should be when they return to school and we will keep you up to date at all times.

At this point we have no definite plans in place for what school will look like in September. As I write this letter we still have not received full guidance from the Department of Education so we do not know the days or hours children will be attending or required to attend. As soon as we know and have our plan prepared I will share this with you as I appreciate you all have to make arrangements for your home life and child care.

We invite you to come to school on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to collect a pack of all the work your child has completed in school this year. It is always lovely to look back on what they have learnt and achieved. We will also have any belongings that your child may have left behind available to collect. Times for collection are as follows:

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| FAMILY PACKS | 10AM – 11AM       |
| P1,2,3       | 11.15AM – 12.15PM |
| P4- P7       | 12.30PM- 1.30PM   |

Again we would ask you to please follow social distancing guidance and enter through the new gates. Thank you.

When you pick up your pack on Tuesday you will also receive a report for your child. You will see it is somewhat different from the usual report that we send home in June. It is difficult for us to write a more detailed report at this time since your child has been at home for a significant amount of time now. It would be wrong of us to say that we know exactly what your child can or can't do at this point but rest assured when we return to school we will quickly assess what they know and what we need to revisit with them. The report is a summary of what your child has achieved in school this year and we hope you enjoy reading them.



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As we plan for next year we would like to inform you that the class teachers for next year will be:

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| Primary 1     | Mrs Harper   |
| Primary 2 & 3 | Mrs Donnelly |
| Primary 4 & 5 | Mr McCaughey |
| Primary 6 & 7 | Mr McAleer   |

I would like to sincerely thank Miss McElroy who taught with Mrs Donnelly in P2/3 this year. Miss McElroy was a very dedicated teacher and did an excellent job, we will miss her in St.Mary's. We welcome Mrs Donnelly back to work now full time.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the school staff for their hard work this school year and since Covid 19 entered our lives. They have worked very hard to ensure our children are not missing out and we have been planning ahead for the future. The teachers were thrown in at the deep end in relation to Home Learning and I am very proud of the work they prepared for our boys and girls and the support they have given them. I also thank them sincerely personally for the support they have given me, we are very lucky to have such a sincere and dedicated team here in St.Mary's.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our P7 children. They have missed out on a lot of very special memories that only come in P7. I will be in touch with our P7'S next week with some special plans but in the meantime I wish each of them every success and blessing as they prepare to move on. The current P7's and I began life in St.Mary's together on the same day in September 2013, they are the first year group I have been with all the way through school and I am very proud of them. They will always hold a special place in my heart and it has been a pleasure watching them grow and flourish in the last seven years.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful summer break and please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns. I will be in touch as soon as I have the information I know everyone is waiting for.

God bless and thank you for your continued support,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Leonard

Principal



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