

11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. There is no doubt that the past few months have been extraordinary and we are certainly living through history at this time. Many of you may have suffered as a result of Covid 19 either health-wise or financially - please know that our thoughts are with you.

It has been very heartening to see the wonderful work that the children have been doing either via SeeSaw or through the Photo Gallery. You should all give yourselves a pat on the back! All the children look very happy and content. The results of our recent survey were very positive in all aspects and in particular in relation to the wellbeing of children. As I have mentioned before, when we return on 31<sup>st</sup> August the teachers will take the children where they are at in their learning and we will differentiate accordingly. We enclose your child's school report. This takes account of their learning and progress up to 12<sup>th</sup> March.

At this time, we are still awaiting guidance from the Department of Education as to how schools will operate in the new academic year. We will be in touch during August to let you know the situation but please keep an eye on the website for updates.

Enclosed you will find the booklist for the coming year. We are hoping that you will settle this via online banking and the school account details are listed. Please ensure that you give the name of the child in the *remittance line/message for receiver*, to enable us to identify you as making the payment. If you have an outstanding bill, this is also enclosed. We recognise that this may be a very difficult financial time for families so please do not put yourself under any pressure and if you need to speak with me in September about your bills that won't be a problem.

Sadly, we need to inform you that we are losing our long time SNA, Ms Marie Morrin, who will retire at the end of the month. Marie has been a loyal and dedicated member of our staff and we know the children will miss her as much as us. We wish her every blessing and joy in her retirement. Mr. Shane Egan is taking a year long career break and so he will not be with us for next year. We wish him every success in his endeavours and we look forward to his return in 2021.

We are losing a very special 6<sup>th</sup> class this year. These children have been wonderful children in every way and deserve huge credit for the brave way they have handled their disappointment at not getting the usual send off. We will try to make their Graduation special and each child will receive a little pack with some mementos and we will live stream a short ceremony for them from the church. We wish them every success and joy as they begin their new adventure into Secondary school. We will miss them! A separate letter regarding Graduation and other matters will issue to their parents.

I would like to thank our Board of Management, our teachers and our ancillary staff for their dedication at this time. We have all been on a steep learning curve in relation to distance teaching and learning but everyone has given of their best and I am sincerely grateful.

Our wonderful Parents' Association deserve great credit for all the work they do all year and I especially thank Ms Maebh Langford Smith who has been a terrific Chairperson. Many thanks to you all.

Finally, could you please pass on to the boys and girls my kind regards. We are all missing them so much but we are very proud of them. They have coped so well with this "new normal" and have been an inspiration to the rest of us. Some children have had bereavements in their extended family during this time and we are especially thinking of them. Please keep sending in those wonderful photos and videos because they really cheer us all up! We are hoping to host some class assemblies on Zoom prior to the end of June so that children can have a chat with each other and say goodbye to their teachers. Please sign the attached consent form and email respective class teachers in order to receive the online invitation. Keep logging in to our Emergency Closure section of the website and watch out for our "Virtual Home Sports Day" on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Congratulations to our competition winners – your prizes are on the way!

God bless you all and keep you safe and may you all have a wonderful summer.

Yours sincerely,

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**Philomena Cleary**

**Principal**

Bank Account Details: BIC: IPBSIE2D

IBAN: IE57IPBS99064200196503

# **CONSENT FORM**

I give my child \_\_\_\_\_ consent to attend Zoom class meetings with their class teacher. I commit to staying in the room as the meeting takes place but not to interfere with the proceedings. The meeting will not take place in a bedroom. My child will undertake to follow normal classroom rules such as raising a hand to speak, allowing others to talk, and wearing appropriate clothes (no pjs!). I confirm that no screen shots will be taken of the meeting, nor will it be recorded.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email the signed form to your child's class teacher by scanning it or uploading a photo. Only parents who have returned a consent form will be sent an invitation for their child to attend a meeting. Children do not have to attend – this is purely voluntary.

Ms Wallnutt: [mwallnutt@edmondstownns.ie](mailto:mwallnutt@edmondstownns.ie)

Mrs Burke (Brocklebank): [abrocklebank@edmondstownns.ie](mailto:abrocklebank@edmondstownns.ie)

Mr. Egan: [segan@edmondstownns.ie](mailto:segan@edmondstownns.ie)

Mr. Dunne: [mdunne@edmondstownns.ie](mailto:mdunne@edmondstownns.ie)

