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Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter despite the exceptional circumstances we find ourselves in. The teachers have resumed uploading daily content on the website under the **Emergency Closure** tab. It is important to reiterate that this content is purely **optional**. Parents are under a lot of stress at the moment. I understand that many households do not have laptops available for children's use, their broadband is intermittent and they are working from home themselves with all that entails. Other households have older children who are fretting about Leaving Certificate examinations etc. Our most important priority at the moment is the wellbeing of the children. Thankfully, children are extremely resilient. When we all get back to school, the teachers are expert professionals at differentiation and will take each child "where they are at" in their education, so no one should be worried about their child "falling behind".

We are really enjoying the photos for the `Sharing Gallery' that have been sent to the school email <a href="mailto:edmondstownns@hotmail.com">edmondstownns@hotmail.com</a> of the children enjoying various activities. It is a wonderful way for us all to keep in touch as we really miss the children. I would encourage more photo sharing, particularly from the older children in view of their limited time left with us. If possible try to adhere to our Acceptable Use Policy which states that children will not be photographed on their own. We understand that this has not been possible in a lot of cases. For our part, we are not using children's names.

Lots of parents have been emailing the school, either sending photos or commenting on the website content and it has been great to touch base with them. However, it is very important at this time, that every family is aware of what's available under the Emergency Closure tab of the website, should they wish to avail of it. In this regard, I am asking every family that has not already sent an email or text to either the school or an individual teacher, to email the school before next Monday, to let us know that they are aware that content is available. In addition, we have devised an anonymous survey to gauge your reaction to the Emergency Closure content and I would ask each family to click into this survey

before next Monday (links below). It will take no more than 5 minutes to complete. We very much appreciate your co-operation with both these requests.

Please let the children know we are missing them and that we are delighted to hear that, for the most part, they are behaving brilliantly!

May you all keep safe and well and remember "this too will pass".

Yours sincerely,

Philomena Cleary Principal

Link for Junior Infants to Second Class: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CQM7FRP">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CQM7FRP</a>

Link for Third to Sixth Class: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSLKSCB">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSLKSCB</a>