



04-05-20

Dear Parents,

I hope this finds you and yours well. In light of the Taoiseach's announcement that schools will remain closed until September, I wanted to contact you regarding our Distance Learning programme for the remaining 7 weeks of the school year.

Firstly, I would like to commend you all on your work to date, in working with teachers to ensure continuity of learning. I am aware that this is a significant challenge with some parents working from home or indeed working on the frontline and we have had to adapt to online learning in challenging times. We, like many other schools are awaiting guidance from the Department of Education regarding the implementation of this next phase of Distance Learning. However, now that we are entering into another phase of home schooling, we would like you to reflect on what aspects have been working well and what areas we need to improve on. Your feedback is important to us as we want to support you as parents and indeed our pupils during this difficult time.

We ask that you take a few moments to reflect on the 3 questions below and communicate your feedback to us at your earliest convenience. I am conscious of the various work and family related commitments you may have at this time and I did not want to overwhelm you with a survey/questionnaire thus I have kept it as simple as possible:

(Q.1) What aspects of the Distance Learning are working well? (e.g. teacher/school communication, manageable work schedules, resources, etc.)

(Q.2) What further steps could we take to further support parents and pupils grappling with the challenge of online learning?

(Q.3) Do you feel you have adequate broadband and access to a sufficient number of devices for your child(ren) to access Seesaw/ online material?

I would also like to offer some words of reassurance to our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils who understandably are sad and disappointed at such an abrupt end to their time in primary school. However, I hope to organise for you to get a chance to say goodbye to your teachers and classmates by the end of June so please don't be worried, we will sort something out for you.

As always, teacher will be accessible via Seesaw and I would like to thank them for their commitment and dedication to their pupils. As a staff, we all miss our pupils and we have prepared a little video to show we that we are thinking

of them although we are apart. The video is uploaded to the Parents Association Facebook page. Thank you once again for your continued support and all of you who took the time to send me /class teachers good wishes, over the past number of weeks. As always, I am here to help, do not hesitate to reach out to me or any staff member for support or advice. I wish continued health for you and your families. Stay safe.

Le gach dea-ghuí,  
Tanya Farrelly