



Redeemer Boys' N.S.

Scoil Náisiúnta an tSlánaitheora Buachaillí

Principal: Mrs M Murray, BEd, MEd

Chairperson: Mr F Mullen

Ard Easmuinn

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5th January 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year. I hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and have enjoyed spending time with your family and friends.

School reopens tomorrow, Thursday 6th January, for all pupils. Pupils should continue to arrive to either the front or back gates from 8.50am onwards. They will be able to walk straight into the school and their classroom at this time. Please complete the Return to School Form that will be sent this evening via text message before your son/s return for Term 2. As always, you should complete a separate form for each child enrolled in our school.

I would like to thank our school community for all their communication and understanding regarding Covid-19 to date. As a school we have so far managed to navigate our way through these unprecedented times with minimal disruption to in-person teaching and learning since our restart in September 2021. Unfortunately, the current high levels of infection in the community may lead to potential disruption to learning in the new term as pupils and staff may have to isolate/restrict movements. As we start this new term, I ask all parents to continue to be cautious, particularly with regard to pupils less able to articulate their symptoms. If a child appears unwell, observe them at home and contact their GP as appropriate. **Please do not send your son to school if he is sick or has symptoms.**

If you have been told by the HSE services that you are a close contact of a case of Covid-19, you need to adhere to the advice on the HSE website in relation to restricted movements and testing. Children under 13 years who are household close contacts must restrict their movements for 14 days and they are offered PCR testing at day 0 and day 10. On receipt of a day 10 not-detected PCR test result, they may exit restricted movements. **We must be respectful of each other and try to limit the spread of Covid-19.** The link below will take you to the Quick Isolation Guide for children under 13 years of age.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/algorithms/Isolation%20quick%20guide%20under%2013s.pdf>

There is a great shortage of substitute teachers and SNAs at the moment. There may be occasions due to high levels of staff absence (restricting movements/isolating) that individual classes may have to move to remote learning. I want to assure parents that this would be a last resort and would only be used whenever it is deemed the only feasible option after consultation with a Department of Education (DES) Inspector and the school's Board of Management. **If individual classes are moved to remote learning, as per DES guidance covering the period from 06/01/22 to 23/02/22, we will prioritise in-person teaching for our special classes, pupils with special educational needs in the mainstream school and our younger classes.** We will continue to use the in school mitigation measures and class bubbles system to ensure the safest possible learning environment for the pupils and staff at the school.

Enjoy the last few hours of the holidays and we look forward to welcoming you all back tomorrow.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation,

M.Murray

Fás agus Foghlaim