

St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh

10 Whites Road, Cabragh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 3AN

Telephone: (028) 8776 7356

Acting Principal: Mrs Louise Quinn



3rd June 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope this letter finds you and all your family well. Thank you all very much for your continued support and hard work over the past few weeks. It is hard to believe that we are now into our final month of the school year! We continue to miss the children very much and they remain in the thoughts of our staff every day.

St. Mary's End of Year Mass

We would like to invite you and your children to join us in our end of year mass to mark the end of the academic year. This year we will celebrate our end of year Mass in The Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen, via the parish webcam on **Friday 19th June at 7pm.**

End of Year Report

Each child will receive an end of year school report. These will be posted out in the last week of June. The report format will be shorter this year due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and shorter academic year. The report will reflect teacher assessments on classroom work from September 2019 to mid-March 2020. The report will also indicate your child's class teacher for next year.

Post Primary School Admissions 2020/21

The Education Authority has made the decision to prepare and issue notification of post primary placement letters on behalf of schools to parents/guardians. Parents will receive this letter on **Thursday 4th June 2020.** The letter will outline in more detail; the application outcome, information on the appeals process and a link to the EA website for more information.

I understand that this may be an anxious time for our P7 pupils, and their families and I wish to provide whatever support and assistance is needed in the event of the placement letter from EA not arriving. As such, if you require any assistance please contact the school on 028 877 67356 on Thursday 4 June between 10.00am and 3.00pm, when I will be available to help you with placement information.

Primary Seven Leavers

We are so sad that we are not in school for the final month of the school year. There was so much to look forward to – End of year school trip, tournaments, fun days, Prize-Giving, Leavers' Assembly, Sports Day and so much more. All the staff and I share this disappointment with the children and wish we were able to celebrate these joyous and memorable final weeks in Primary 7. Mr Ball is currently working on some ideas to help the children mark their final year in Primary School and will be in touch with the children very soon. We will also be sending out some support materials later in June to help prepare your child for transition to Post Primary.

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Primary One New Entrants

Normally during the month of June we hold an Induction morning for the new Primary One children and an information session for parents. Regrettably, this will not be possible this year due to the impact of Covid-19. However, we plan to distribute starting school packs with all the relevant information and forms to be completed later this month. We will be in touch with all parents in due course. I understand that this may be an anxious time for you and your child but we will do everything we can to make your child's transition to school as smooth as possible.

Transport Application Form for September 2020

If your child is going to be travelling to and from school by bus in September 2020, an application form **must** be completed online. www.eani.org.uk/transportapp

Free School Meals/School Uniform/Physical Education Clothing Allowance Application

<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-school-uniform-allowance>

Re-opening of schools

The Minister of Education has confirmed that schools will NOT open for the remainder of the current academic year. The Minister states that a phased return to the classroom is the safest way to get children back into school. The Minister has highlighted that this will not be a return to school as it was prior to COVID-19. For all pupils it will involve a schedule with a mixture of school attendance and remote learning at home. There will be a regime of social distancing and safety measures put in place within the school setting. At present, we have had no firm advice from the Department of Education on the manner of the school's reopening. There are still many unanswered questions, but we will continue to keep you informed as we receive updates from The Department of Education and other relevant bodies.

As a school, we are making preparations to ensure that school can restart in a safe and effective manner when conditions permit. The health and well-being of our pupils, staff and wider school community will be our primary concern. When we return to school, we will endeavour to get your child back on track and to ensure that they reach their full potential, but this will take a little time and your continued support.

As a school we are here to support you. Do not hesitate to email me if you need any information or help. lquinn460@c2kni.net You can also message the class teacher on the comments tab in the Home Learning Area on the school website if you need any help or support.

We continue to keep all our families in our thoughts and prayers. We ask God to keep our entire school community safe.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Louise Quinn
Principal