

June News Update 2 -2020



15.6.20

Dear Parents,

I feel it is necessary to update and inform you all that we are continuing to work behind the scenes in devising our own personal 'Restart Programme' pertinent to our school, our circumstances and our environment.

A great deal of consultation has been taking place, between various agencies within education and more recently among a local group of primary principals in Newry, which we are a part of, who have met with Mr Weir.

What we can state for sure at this juncture, is the programme for the new academic year will not be as we know it. We are looking at various models and currently find we are leaning towards those options, where our pupils could access school as frequently as possible, involving half day attendance broken over morning and afternoon slots.

When we do launch our 'Restart Programme' in the new academic year, I want to reassure you this plan will have our pupils' social, emotional and academic wellbeing at the heart of every decision we make, as we continue to navigate our way forward through these uncharted waters.

The programme for learning will be tailored for opportunities to support our pupils' mental health and wellbeing, whilst reinforcing and consolidating work from this current academic year. We want to ensure the transition back to school for our children is a safe, happy and nurturing one.

I wish to sincerely thank you all for your continual hard work in supporting our children during lockdown and I very much look forward to meeting everyone in person in due course.

Please find below further important updates for you all.



Our '**Friends of St. Joseph and St. James's**' have organised an exciting **Treasure Hunt** to bring us as a school community together albeit not physically in drawing the school year to a close.

We invite each family within our school to support such an event, it will be launched on **Friday 26th June**, the proceeds from which will go towards supporting all our children and the newly purchased Literacy and Numeracy online resources/programmes.

Please pay close attention to our '**Friends of St. Joseph and St. James's**' page on Facebook, as well as notifications via our school app for further details.

We would like to sincerely thank all our members, from such a wonderful and essential group, who have assisted in organising such an anticipated event.



Bee Active- June's challenge,

Congratulations to everyone for wholeheartedly engaging in our recent June Challenge. We were delighted to see all of you embrace the various sporting challenges Anto outlined for you. We commend you all, it was absolutely wonderful to see so many get involved.

We are currently having issues uploading the video to our website, which we are continuing to work through. We hope we will be able to share the link with you all via Seesaw, and our Friends of Facebook Page in the interim.



Reminder to all our parents off our new P1 pupils, who are joining us in September. We look forward to meeting you all at our Information sessions at our allocated times on **Monday 22.6.20**.

Classroom changes for the new academic year.

Our committed staff have all been working so hard over the last number of weeks to deep clean, replenish and assist in the relocation of pupil's classrooms.

For the new academic year, the following year groups will be located as follows:

P1/2: Mrs Wadsworth/Mrs Magowan – Room 3 in main building

P2/3: Mrs McCooey – Room 2 in main building

P4/5: Mrs Sloan – Room 1 – in mobile classroom block

P6: Mrs Shortt – Room 2 – in mobile classroom block

P7: Mrs Doran – Room 1 - in main building

When we receive clearer guidance, we will update you regarding the daily procedures for drop off and collection of all our children and a more detailed 'Restart Plan' for the new academic year. I hope to release this to you prior to summer holidays.

Yours in continued partnership

C. Wadsworth and the staff of St. Joseph and St. James's