

Scoil Nano Nagle

Bawnogue, Clondalkin, Dublin D22VF68.

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Tuesday, 30th June 2020

Dear Parents,

As today is the final official day of the school year, I wanted to write to update you on a few issues:

- I want to thank each and every one of you for your co-operation and assistance since the closure on 12th March. Your efforts at home have made a huge difference. We will be moving slowly in September to ensure that the children are eased back in and that all the important work is covered. I have interacted with many parents since 12th March and their courtesy and helpfulness has been appreciated.
- Our children have shown great resilience during lockdown. They have worked hard at home to keep learning. Well done boys and girls – we look forward to seeing you all again on 31st August!
- In particular, I wish to say good bye and good luck to our 2nd class children and their families. We look forward to celebrating their First Communion with them in October. I am sure they will all do very well in Scoil Talbot. Many of our 2nd class parents have contributed hugely to the life of the school over the past years and I also want to sincerely thank them for this.
- I know that you will want to join me in thanking my colleagues at Nano Nagle for their dedication and hard work since March, and across the school year. Teachers, special needs assistants, childcare workers, along with our attendance worker, caretaker, cleaners and school secretary have all played a crucial role in keeping the school functioning and supporting families. We are very lucky to have such a devoted team in Bawnogue.
- There are a number of classes who are awaiting to hear who their teacher will be next year. I will be able to confirm this in mid July. Thank you for your patience.

- Our aim is to open the school on Monday, 31st August as normal for all our junior infant, senior infant, 1st and 2nd class children. We have learned over the last few months that things can change very suddenly if we are forced to change our plan, I will let you know as soon as possible. We are continuing to work hard to make this happen. We will be ensuring that contact between classes is kept to the minimum. Each class has its own private playing space during play time. Staff will be restricted from visiting multiple classrooms. Large school events like concerts, shows and assemblies will not be happening in the short-term at least. The school are following all of the guidance in terms of the availability of hand sanitizer in each classroom and other hygiene measures. We will also have very set procedure if there is a suspected case of Covid-19 within the building.
- However, despite our plans, we need your co-operation too.
 - Children who are ill will not be allowed come to school. There is a zero tolerance policy on this.
 - Once a parent has left their child at their line, we are asking you to please leave the yard as soon as possible. Large crowds gathering in the yards is not safe and represents a risk to us all.
 - The yard lines will need to be moved and spread out. Extra staff will be on hand on the first few mornings back to guide children to their new line up space.
 - Parents are strictly forbidden from entering the school building on either dry or wet mornings. This is a direct order of the board of management. I will enforce this without exception.
 - Parents who need to engage with the school office will need to come to the front door and use the intercom. Phone or e-mail is the best way to communicate. I am planning to be available on the phone to parents for a set time each day in September to facilitate this.
 - Early collections will require much more time and patience. Parents will not be allowed enter the building and go to their child's classroom any more.
 Early collections will not be allowed from 1.20 p.m. until 1.40 p.m. and again from 2.20 p.m. until 2.40 p.m. These are very busy time slots for the school office and it is not possible to safely respond to multiple requests.
 - As you know, we share our campus with our neighbouring senior school. We need to respect their space also. Therefore, I am asking that Nano's families enter and exit our grounds via our own large front gate only. This will allow the Senior School and ourselves to ensure the safety of the 700 pupils who we are jointly responsible for.

A few final messages:

Mr. Burke.

- To assist parents, we are introducing an e-payments system for books and materials.
 You will also receive a separate e-mail later on with details of how to pay. The school
 will not be accepting cash or coins from September. The book lists/bills are available
 on our website in case you need to check them. I want to remind families that the
 cost includes <u>all</u> of the text books, rented books, pupil copies and other materials
 that might be needed over the year.
- As always, we are keen to help families who find the book bills very challenging to pay. If you feel your circumstances warrant a discount, please contact our Home-School Community Liaison Co-ordinator via e-mail hschool/mail.com/hschool/ from 17th August onwards. Ms Mac Mahon will respond confidentially.
- From tomorrow, 1st July the school office will be closing officially for the holidays.
 Any e-mail or letters sent to the school will not be responded to until August. It is important that children, parents and staff get some down-time from school and school work.

I will write to all families in late August to fully confirm the details of our re-opening and to update you on our plans. If you are aware of any of our families who are not getting our emails, please let us know and we will add them to our mailing list.

Also, the school website <u>www.scoilnanonagle.com</u> has lots of useful information for families if needed (calendar/uniforms/books/helplines).

In the meantime, take care and keep safe. I look forward to re-engaging with you all in the new school year.

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Regards,	