



Scoil Nano Nagle

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10th August 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this mail finds you all safe and well. It has been a long few months for us all but we are looking forward to the return to school. I can confirm that we are still on target to re-open at 9.00 a.m. on 31st August for all junior infant, senior infant, 1st class and 2nd class children.

In the meantime, I wanted to update you on a few key matters:

Preparations:

A lot of work is on-going to have the building ready for re-opening:

The school has just had an extensive deep clean;

Hand sanitizer dispensers have been placed in each room in the school;

Classrooms are being re-organised to allow for the maximum space between pupils;

The number of staff visiting each classroom is being heavily restricted to a very small number of staff - classes of children will not mix. Visitors to the school must have an appointment and must undertake a sign-in procedure;

Arrangements are being made to allow each class play in their own private space in the yard. This will involve us having different break times for different classes;

Additional morning and break-time supervision is being organised;

Yard lines are being moved to maximise social distancing;

Extra safety signage will be fitted in the coming weeks;

A significant amount of PPE has been bought and is available as needed by staff;

Detailed plans are now in place to keep the virus out of our school and also to deal with a suspected Covid-19 case if it happens. Please be reassured that we will continue to work to keep the children as safe as possible.

Face Masks:

The guidance from the government is that junior school children do not need to wear face masks/coverings. I am encouraging you to follow this advice. Some staff may wear face

coverings/masks sometimes when in school - please do not be alarmed by this. Please let your child know that this might happen.

Uniforms:

Our usual uniform policy still stands - children should wear the usual uniform, except on P.E. days when the school tracksuit should be worn. We understand that families will probably want to wash uniforms more regularly. This is sensible. The school will take a common sense approach if part of the school uniform is missing due to being in the wash on a given day.

E-Payments:

I have been asked by a few families to resend the link to our e-payments for books. To be safe, I will send the link to all families again tomorrow. If you have already paid in full, please ignore the e-mail. Thank you sincerely to all those who have made payments already. Please remember that we are not accepting coins/cash in September. I am attaching a "Help Note" on e-payments. The note also has Ms Mac Mahon's contact details should any family wish to contact her about the book bills. Please remember that more information about the book bills is on our website.

More Information:

The minister for Education has asked us to send all families a letter she was written. I am attaching it for you all. In case any family missed it in June, I am also re-attaching our school calendar for 2020/21 and information on buying school uniforms.

A Request:

The board of management and I are asking for your co-operation with some really important issues; please do not enter the school building at any time during the school day. If you need to speak with me or a member of staff, please phone or e-mail to schedule a call over the phone. I will be available to speak to parents over the phone each morning from 10.00 a.m. until 10.45 a.m., and after school too. As you all now, I respond to any e-mails that I receive from parents - this is also an option to get in touch.

If you need to engage with the school secretary/office, please do so via the intercom at the front door. Also, once you have left your child to their line in the morning, please leave the yard straightaway. This will help lessen the crowds in the yard and will keep all of us much safer. Large crowds of adults gathering in the yard is a serious risk to us all, but especially the children. Please encourage others to leave as they are dropping off too. This will make all the difference. Please be assured that there will be extra staff on the yard to watch the children as they are being brought in.

Thank you all sincerely for your support and co-operation. It is appreciated.

I will be in touch again before the return on 31st August.

Take care,

Mr. Burke.