

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA  
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

Primary message 12<sup>th</sup>

Good morning everyone,

I hope that you are all enjoying Sports Week, your recordings and photographs are fabulous and I thank you sincerely for entering wholeheartedly into the spirit of everything. I felt very emotional when I saw them and felt so proud of what we as a school community have managed to do together during 'Lockdown' to ensure that we are all keeping in touch with each other. It has been so incredibly difficult for you, but you have really committed to all the work that our fabulous staff have put in place and the result has in my mind been outstanding.

I need to discuss a few practical matters:

1) Collection of belongings and reports. You will have hopefully received your slot. This is an extremely tight schedule, but we have planned it in this way because we remain **COMPLETELY** committed to ensuring that we as a school do all that we can to ensure that we are playing our part in reducing viral spread. If we don't, what was the point in us closing school for the past 12 weeks? Therefore I ask people to try to work to the schedule and be responsible for their own social distancing whilst on the premises.

I remind parents of multiple children to only come to the slot provided by the teacher of your **OLDEST** child.

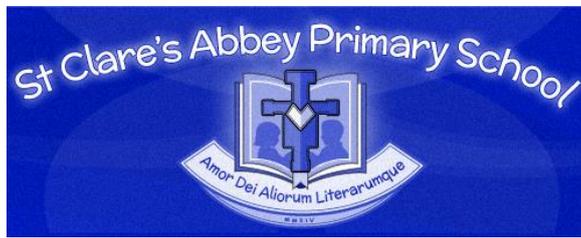
Finally I realise that some parents, due to work commitments will not be able to attend at the slot provided for them. Once the planned schedule has 'run' and we know how many people this applies to we will arrange an alternative time for pick up. This will be phase 2 and details will follow.

2) Parental end of year feedback.

Each year we need to consult with parents to evaluate how certain areas of school life have worked. As such we will be asking parents to complete some questionnaires for us. I know that it is very difficult to find time for things like this, but your thoughts are so, so important to us and we will be asked to show that we have undertaken these. Therefore over the next week we will be asking parents to participate in the following:

**P7 parents:** 'Questionnaire for parents of P7 Leavers is on the website- it is so so important for us to hear from you. I will also ask P7 teachers to send the link to you on Seesaw.

**P1 - P6 parents:** An ICT evaluation will be issued to website and Seesaw to help us evaluate how effective digital learning has been.



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3) Class teachers for September.

I am working on this but it is complex, as you can imagine, this year. I hope to release details prior to summer holidays.

4) P7 Leavers' celebration: we have some lovely things planned, most will be virtual, however a planned slot for each child and a parent to attend school is being worked on. Your child's teacher will be in touch with further detail and the week commencing 22nd June, will be when this will take place.

Can I take this time to remind P7 pupils to complete the Literacy questionnaire that we issued to them. I have had some fabulous responses but would love more.

I conclude by asking you and your families to pray for us, the staff, at this time as we are trying to work out our plan for a safe return for all after the summer. School is going to be very different in the new term and every decision that we make has implications for so much of our existing practice. Our priority throughout will be to get children back into school for as long as we can each week, whilst ensuring that we are implementing all PHA and DE guidelines. (The latter are still to be issued which makes the planning even more difficult, we are on our 3rd version at this stage and I know that there will be many more.) We are in an ever changing situation and I worry about parental perception to our plan (whatever the final version will look like).

However, I am praying that everyone will appreciate that we are giving this our all, in an effort to be safe and fair to everyone.

I remain yours in partnerships,

Michelle Monaghan