
Scoil Mhuire National School, Schull, Co. Cork.
Scoil Náisiúnta Scoil Mhuire, Scoil Mhuire, Co. Chorcaí
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Registered Charity Number 20114534 Roll No. 20088F



02/06/2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health. There are a few things I want to share with you as we enter the month of June.

Firstly, I would like to begin by commending you all on your engagement with home schooling and distance learning with your child. I have no doubt in my mind that it has been rewarding but also challenging at times for families since we closed the school on Thursday March 12th. I would like to thank you for the manner in which you continued to support your child's learning opportunities and adding to their positive experiences during this time. I accept it might not have been easy at times and I think it is important to acknowledge your strength and dedication in guiding your child's learning for the last eleven weeks.

Secondly, I would like to thank the staff of Scoil Mhuire who engaged and continued to plan learning opportunities for their classes with you via the Aladdin Connect app. Communication between parents and teachers is very important to maintain positive relationships between the home and the school.

Thirdly, I would like to acknowledge the support of the Board of Management who have been very hands on behind the scenes with various issues that have arisen since I started in November.

It has been a very unusual year for the entire school community, children, parents, and staff. The school year started in August with Mr Duggan as principal and I took over from him on November 11th. I never imagined when I started that I would spend the second half of my first year leading the school community remotely. I would like to thank every member of the entire school community for their support and encouragement to me during this time.

The children attended 124 out of 183 school days this school year. The teachers have been writing reports based on those 124 days and they will be available for parents via the Aladdin Connect app on Monday June 8th.

Ms Nagle, the 6th class teacher is busy coordinating and organising a fond farewell for our current 6th class. We will be in touch with final details in the next few weeks.

I am sure, many of you like me are wondering and have lots of thoughts and questions about next year. When will we open after the summer holidays? Are the children in for full days/half days? Will the children have the same teacher next year? How many children will be in each class? Unfortunately, at this present time, I don't have the answers to these questions. There are lots of factors that need to be considered before any decisions regarding classes and teachers are made. We are awaiting guidelines and advice from the Department of Education to support us in planning for the safe return of the children to school. The Board of Management will meet and discuss all options and we will notify you as soon as we possibly can.

School was due to close for the summer holidays on Friday June 19th. For the final three weeks of school, the staff have decided to engage in whole school activities. This week, Ms Cleary has co-ordinated an Active week and this homework will be uploaded to Aladdin. We would love to see photos and videos of the children engaging in these activities and sharing them on our school website and facebook page. You can also email them directly to me principal@schullns.com . If you wish to continue with other school work, please feel free to do so or if you need any further support or resources, do not hesitate to contact any member of staff.

Finally, I would like to thank you again for your support and kindness to myself and all the staff. If there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Mairead Drinan