Date: 25.9.21

**RE: New School Year**

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 1st September. I hope all our pupils and families have had time to enjoy the summer. We have continued to keep in place a few measures to help us in the current covid climate and as always, we fully appreciate your support in implementing. Here are a few measures that you may be thinking about as you prepare for next week.

1st Day

Our doors open Wednesday 1st September. We welcome 111 pupils to school. 19 new P1 pupils make a start and we wish them every happiness in their new school.

Breakfast Club

From 1st September our breakfast club will be operating from 8am to 8:45am and available for all pupils as usual at a daily cost of £1 per child.

New P1 Pupils

For the first 3 days (Wed 1st, Thurs 2nd and Fri 3rd) P1 pupils have a short day starting at 9:15am and finishing at 12:30pm, so no packed lunch or dinner is needed for them on these days- just their snack. From Monday 6th Sept P1 pupils will stay until home time at 2pm unless staying for Minding Club which finishes at 3pm.

\*The Ulster Gazette will be taking our P1 photo for the paper on Wed 1st September.

Minding Club

From 1st September our Minding Club will be running from 2pm-3pm. £1 per child a day. Please ensure you pay promptly as we have tight running costs and please do not let amounts accumulate. For the first 3 days it will be our P2 pupils attending and then from the 6th Sept P1 and P2 can both avail.

Welcome Miss Hughes

We wish Miss Louise Hughes the very best as she joins our staff this year. Miss Hughes is a former pupil who will help teach P5 this year. We look forward to working with her.

School Bus

The school bus will operate as normal from usual pick ups. Bus passes have arrived in school and will be issued on day 1.

Dinner Money

As far as I am aware dinner monies have remained at £2.60 per day, which is £13 a week. Please ensure monies are paid each week and that money is sent in an envelope, clearly labelled with child’s name and purpose.

Covid

While bubbles are no longer a necessity according to guidance, our school will take a sensible and cautious approach to the new school year and will continue with very similar routines that got us through much of last year.

* We will continue with 2 break times and 2 lunch times.
* Social distancing will be observed
* Hand sanitising will be encouraged, beginning with Christine spraying hands upon entering school and then regularly throughout the day.
* We will be keeping visitors to school at an absolute minimum.
* We will be asking again for parents to remain outside of school and thank you in advance for understanding.
* Mixing of classes will be at an absolute minimal. Signs, floor markings, ventilated spaces and staggered bells allow pupils to move safer throughout the school.

We would urge parents to refrain from sending their child to school if they are displaying any covid symptoms and keep teachers well informed as we settle back into another school year.

Uniform

Same as last year so round neck jumper with crest, blue polo with crest. Girls can wear pinafore, skirt or trousers and boys in P4-P7 have formal navy trousers while P1-P3 wear soft navy trousers available from Brenda’s and Hugh Mc Elvanna’s in Keady.

Footwear is all black. No boots or heals for girls.

Classes

We have 5 classes this year

* P1/2 Mrs Mc Kernan
* P2/3 Ms Conlon
* P4 Mrs Doyle
* P5 Mr Monaghan & Miss Hughes
* P6/7 Mrs Carvill

We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back and once again bring the school corridors and classroom back to life. As always if there is anything myself, teachers or school can help with, please get in touch.

Kindest regards,

Ciaran.