



HOLY FAMILY JUNIOR NATIONAL SCHOOL

River Valley, Swords, Co Dublin.

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TO: Parents of Children in Second Standard

Dear Parents

As you are aware the Government has published the *Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business*. This sees a Five Phase reopening over 15 weeks. Phase 1 is due to begin May 18th. The document is described as "living" and the schedule offered may change in response to the progression or suppression of the disease. While it is very disappointing not to be able to see the children before the summer, for now we will continue to post the worklists and support the children's learning via e-mail.

While the situation remains very fluid we can now begin to plan for the coming year. I write to share these plans with you.

REOPENING & SAFETY

A Phased reopening of schools is planned from the beginning of the academic year 2020/21. As we share a campus with the Senior school, we must consider the school population of approximately 1350 pupils and 150 staff who are onsite on any given school day. This is before any parents come onsite. This presents with considerable challenges with regard to social distancing requirements. We will look to the Department of Education & Skills and Patron for guidance on these issues.

The Safety of all is the priority for both Boards and they must be satisfied that the school can meet all requirements from the Department of Education & Skills and NPHE.

COMMUNION

We were looking forward to a very nice day on Saturday, but unfortunately like other schools around the country have had our children's ceremonies postponed. We hope that you and your families do something nice on Saturday.

Fr Des is hoping that Communion may be held over the summer. This will be a church decision and Fr Des will inform you should he be permitted to do so. These will probably be on a smaller scale and subject to Diocesan guidelines.

TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS TO 3RD CLASS IN HOLY FAMILY SENIOR SCHOOL

I have been speaking with Ms Gowen, Principal of Holy Family Senior School. You will see from her letter that she plans to keep our current Second Classes in their current class groupings for 3rd Class.

Her letter also gives some other important information regarding transfer to Senior School. In the future she will correspond directly with you by e-mail and she has asked that you keep an eye on your SPAM folder just in case they land there!

If your child is not transferring to Holy Family SNS, please e-mail this school at hfjns3.ias@eircom.net as Department of Education & Skills must be notified and transfer documents will need to be completed for your new 3rd class school.

To the boys and girls - We all miss you very much and know you are missing your friends. We are really looking forward to seeing you all after the summer. We love hearing about how you are getting on and I think the videos and photos you are sending in are fantastic. You have some wonderful ideas, well done!

Kind regards

Declan Power

Declan Power, Principal

13TH May 2020