



To All in the Holy Child Community School Community.

2nd April 2020

Dear All,

I write to you on behalf of the Board of Management of HCCS. Firstly, I would like to say that we hope you are all well and safe and to those who have been directly affected by the virus we wish you a speedy recovery.

We are going through unprecedented times. Challenges have been forced upon us that we never dreamed of. The Board of Management is hugely impressed by the response of our teachers, students, parents and ancillary staff to meeting the needs of every student as best they can. It has not been easy to suddenly change to an online teaching and learning school. The leadership shown by Ms. Valerie Maher and Ms. Clodagh Downes has been exceptional as has the response of our teachers and our leadership team. We are very grateful for your continued hard work and perseverance.

The most important thing for our whole school community is to stay well. Structure and activity are the vital ingredients in making this happen. Our teachers have focussed on their students' wellbeing and academic progress. If your son/daughter has been unable to connect with their teachers so far, we are urging you their parents to encourage them to engage even at a low level with their teachers and their friends. I am assured by Ms Maher that the staff will continue every effort to ensure no student will be left behind. We are all in this together.

We have reached a natural break today and we wish everyone a happy, safe and exceedingly different Easter. It is now time to take a break from our teaching and learning and enjoy our hobbies, catch up with friends virtually, use our skills to be creative and return to our online school in two weeks' time fully refreshed and ready to continue/join a new way of teaching and learning.

Finally, many of our parents are working on the frontline. You are the people in our hospitals, at the supermarkets, delivering our groceries, driving our trains and buses, caring for our elderly and much more. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Every good wish and blessing

Gerardine Hackett

Chairperson