



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



20th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you and your family remain safe and well. These are challenging and evolving times and in Our Lady's we are trying to adapt as well as possible to respond to the changing educational environment for our students.

The staff in Our Lady's have responded very positively to the move to remote learning. I have been in contact with all staff individually today and the common themes were 'a steep learning curve', 'a strong sense of community' in Our Lady's and how 'adaptable the students are becoming'.

Teachers are communicating using Google Classroom and email and experimenting with online classes where possible. The technology is experiencing heavy demand globally which creates connectivity issues.

I am very grateful to our teachers and all our staff for engaging as they are. It is very difficult for many of them to balance work with their own family situations, as they care for their own children and elderly or vulnerable relatives and I'm sure you can empathise with this as I know many of you are doing the same.

We appreciate too that families are doing all they can to support their children's learning at home — while also juggling work and other commitments — and realise it can be daunting. We want to ensure that the support we give is helpful and flexible enough for families to fit it in around their busy schedules and within busy households. To create good habits, we continue to encourage all our students to follow the school timetable where possible. If this presents a problem for your daughter due to other demands please let the Year Head know.

We have sent each student a 'Learning Check In' questionnaire to assess how their learning experience progressed this week. Please remind your daughter to fill this in.

We are all missing everything that school life encompasses, and I know the same is true for our students. Many miss the day to day hustle and bustle of school and the companionship of their friends. Please encourage your daughter to keep her friendships up remotely and to check in on other friends. Each class has a Google Classroom for their PE class and it is important that your daughter engages with PE to assist her wellbeing. Please also encourage your daughter to do regular exercise outside (maintaining social distance) to assist a positive mental attitude.

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Deputy Principals:
Stephen Rhatigan, Aoife Ronan



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This is a particularly challenging time for our Junior and Leaving Certificate students. Yesterday's announcements by the Minister for Education brought some clarity but also caused upset and anxiety which is to be understood. We will continue to support all our students and if you feel your daughter needs extra support at this time please let the relevant Year Head know.

Please rest assured that all of us in OLS are continually striving to provide the best supports we can to our students in these challenging times.

Marguerite Gorby

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