

Mountmellick Community School

office@mountmellickcs.ie

www.mountmellickcs.ie

Fax: 057 8644136



Mountmellick

Co. Laois

Tel: 057 8624220

“Respect is our strength”

5th May 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians & Students,

We sincerely hope that you are keeping well and staying safe in these difficult circumstances and would like to acknowledge and commend the effort made by all students, parents / guardians and staff who have engaged so well in new methods of teaching and learning since the 12th March. The transformation of our school to a virtual environment in March 2020 where remote communication between students and teachers and the use of google classroom and other on-line teaching and learning packages to facilitate the education of the students in our care has been both efficient and effective.

As you are aware, there was some consideration being given in recent weeks to the re-opening of schools before the end of the current school year along with suggestions from various Ministers of having different year groups in for one day per week. The clarity brought to this situation following the announcement by the Taoiseach last Friday, while neither surprising or desirable, has allowed us to finalise plans for the month of May and to put a structure to the remainder of the school year for all year groups.

Other recent announcements with regard to extending the closure of our school have led us to increasing our provision of on-line classes to our students. This commenced last Monday with on-line live video classes for all 6th years in all subjects with a new timetable in place from Monday morning to Friday afternoon. Due to the resounding success of this measure and following the Ministers announcement last Thursday, this model has been extended to our 3rd year students to commence on the 6th May.

Please open the May 2020 folder on this website for latest details on:

- New timetable for 6th year students (commenced 27th April) for on-line Zoom classes
- New timetable for 3rd year students (commencing 6th May) for on-line Zoom classes
- Letter on school based Junior Certificate assessment / examinations for 3rd year students in May 2020
- Letters on Summer Examinations arrangements for 1st, 2nd & 5th year students in May 2020

As a school community with student care at the centre to all our endeavours, we have continuously reviewed, revised and adjusted the manner in which we cater for the need of our students during this current pandemic. As always, if you have any queries, requests or suggestions in this regard please let us know by e-mail to office@mountmellickcs.ie.

Our students need to be reminded

Yours sincerely,

Principal: *Larry Curtin*

Deputy Principal: *Frances Kerry La Rosa*

L Curtin

F Kerry La Rosa

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