

June 2021

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of another challenging school year, we would like to thank you all for your support and co-operation since we reopened last September. We are especially grateful to you all for the wonderful work and engagement with Remote Learning at the start of 2021. We are very proud of all our pupils who have achieved so much in the 2020-21 school year.

We appreciate that it has been a tough time for the many members of our school community who were bereaved during the year and our thoughts and prayers continue to be with them.

It seems that the worst of the pandemic is behind us and we hope for a 'normal' school year in 2021-22.

Staff

We would like to wish Mrs. Keyes (Deputy Principal), Ms Hurley (SET 5th Class) and Ms Áine Kavanagh (SNA) well as they retire at the end of August. We are lucky to have such dedicated staff in our school. We would like to thank them for all their wonderful work over a long period of time.

We send our best wishes to Ms Hegarty as she resigns from her permanent post in our school to continue her teaching career in Cork. We congratulate Mr. Ronan Keddy on his appointment as Deputy Principal. We would like to thank Mr. Keddy for all his work as HSCL co-ordinator over the last three years. A teacher (from our staff) will be appointed to this position in the coming weeks. We also congratulate Mr. Enright, Ms Keddy and Ms Monahan on their appointment to permanent teaching positions in our school.

We send our good wishes to staff who are out on sick leave at the moment. We miss having them in school every day and they are very much in our thoughts. As a school community, we continue to be together while apart.

Classes for 2021-2022

We will welcome two new Junior Infant classes to our school in September 2021. We will have one 1st class next year as Ms Keddy's class and Ms Dempsey's class will join together. Ms Keddy will teach this class. Ms Brennan will work as a full-time Special Education Teacher supporting this class. We will inform you of your child's class teacher as soon as possible, once our recruitment process for the coming school year is completed.

End of Year Reports

School reports will be available to parents later this week. We will send you a notification on Aladdin to let you know when they are available. If you have any difficulty accessing the Aladdin app, please contact Fiona in our school office or email office@newtownprimary.ie.

6th Class Graduation

We wish 6th class well as they come to the end of their time in Newtownmountkenedy Primary School and move on to secondary school. Our 6th class graduation ceremony will take place on Friday, 25th June on Zoom (due to the current Covid-19 restrictions). Parents will be sent a link on the day. Please ensure we have your correct contact details for this.

Summer Camps

We will run two summer camps in our school this July.

Our ASD summer camp will run for two weeks starting on Thursday, July 1st. Mr. Keddy is co-ordinating this camp. Places for this camp will be offered to children in our autism classes first.

Mr. Enright is co-ordinating the Literacy & Numeracy Camp for us again this year. It will run for one week, starting on Thursday, July 1st. We will have spaces for 36 children on this camp and we will be in contact with parents regarding places in this camp next week.

June Activities

We look forward to celebrating the end of the school year with different activities in school such as Festina Lente, a visit from our local Alpaca farm, James the Tinsmith, Sports Day, Dance with Zoe as well as our sponsored walk. We are very grateful to our Parents Association who are busy organising an ice-cream treat for all pupils. We thank the association for their ongoing support.

Best wishes to all boys and girls who are due to celebrate their First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the summer.

We hope your children enjoy their last few weeks of school in June as we reflect on and celebrate their wonderful achievements during the 2020-21 school year. Bainigí taitneamh as an samhradh.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Deirdre Lennon (School Principal)