



22nd December, 2021

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

Many thanks for all your support and your positive messages throughout our first term. It was a busy return to school and our initial priority was to offer our students an opportunity to revise curriculum areas from last year to assist academic catch up. Each subject department engaged positively with this whole school initiative and assessments which followed showed that it was a very valuable way to start the new academic year.

The launch of our CLASS programme was a complicated undertaking that is now firmly embedded in the life of the school. Despite the restrictions associated with the CLASS programme including a national shortage of teachers, we nevertheless set about a recruiting and interviewing process building a team of teachers that would be able to deliver the school's programme. As previously outlined the programme has a three pronged approach. We focus on:

1. Students who have lost school days due to Covid
2. Academic Catch up for all students
3. Additional Wellbeing Supports

We look forward to the introduction of the new lunch time supervised Sports Play Zone after Christmas. To date we are delighted with the student uptake on the programme and will continue to monitor it to ensure that it matches student needs.

We are now enjoying the benefits of our new replacement astro turf pitch and again thanks to the parent body and the community for their generosity in fundraising all monies needed for the pitch. It is a much needed addition to the facilities in the school and will benefit every students' wellbeing.

Inter House competitions are as competitive as ever and we have just finished judging the Inter house Christmas tree decorating competition. The creativity in OLS continues to amaze us all from the innovative Geography models that students designed and created for Geography week to the book themed baking competition during Reading week.

As always, charitable acts reflect our values in OLS and the community has again rallied together to give generously to St Vincent de Paul, Pieta House, Peter McVerry and Goal.

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LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



The number of hats and scarves knitted for the Peter McVerry foundation has dramatically increased reflecting the strong social conscience that exists in our community.

The APP continues to play a central role in school communications. You can now access your VSWare reports from the APP and it is the only place to send student absences and lates.

We look forward to finishing the school year 2021 with a remote Christmas carol ceremony, the House quiz and our annual 12 Gifts of Christmas raffle. A big thank you to all the parents and in particular the Parents' Council who donated the wonderful array of gifts and prizes and for supporting the raffle. Proceeds will go towards replacing projectors in the classrooms.

Our thoughts and prayers go to all those who have had bereavements over the past year and also to those unable to spend the festive season with their loved ones.

I wish each and every member of the OLS family a healthy, happy and safe Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Principal

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