



**OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL**
TERENURE



June 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

I would like to thank you and your families for the exceptional support that you have shown the staff and students of Our Lady's throughout this year. Despite the challenges of the last months the community of OLS emerges stronger and more empowered having had to reinvent itself to engage in the new world of teaching and learning. We have had to revalue our priorities and hope that we will have developed a greater appreciation for our community, the elderly and all that is familiar and good in our lives.

Our students have shown their flexibility, resourcefulness and compassion throughout the past few months. We have all had to forge new strategies as we take on the additional challenges that recent times have brought us.

The staff of OLS have really stepped up when requested and transferred their teaching to a remote context, adapting rapidly. We are exceptionally proud of the care they have shown our students and their strong commitment to do whatever was needed to engage our students positively over the last months. Every effort has been made to ensure that the students of OLS continue to receive the education and pastoral care in the spirit so distinctive to OLS, one of compassion and high standards. The creativity of the staff knew no bounds as they put together online assessments, assemblies, graduation ceremonies, multiple award ceremonies and even tik tok videos.

As we entered a new phase of restrictions it was a pleasure to return to the school building and open the doors to staff who required access for remote teaching and learning. We look forward to the corridors being full next term with the sound of our students busy and engaged in the building.

We will soon be arranging for our students to collect their belongings in the coming weeks from their lockers and school will finally start to feel alive again. Please keep an eye on the App for details on this.

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1st to 5th Year summer reports will be available online next week at, olschool.vsware.ie. You will be notified through the App when the return to school schedule, costs, book lists, recommended reading lists, draft calendar for 2020/21 and uniform requirements become available. You are advised to view information on acceptable school shoes and piercings also. As you can appreciate we are unable to finalise return to school dates at the moment.

Additional costs for each student, which cover items such as school journals, lockers, etc. are payable on or before the return to school date. Please note that prompt payment of these costs assists the smooth running of the school. Payments can be made online, via the 'Easy Payments' tab on the school website.

The DES provides a grant to the school, to assist families who need help with the cost of school books. Families experiencing difficulty may be eligible for assistance. Applications for a grant can be made by completing a 'Book Grant Form', which is available to download from the school website. Please send in forms, with receipts, to the office when your daughter returns to school. If you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact us. All queries will be handled in the strictest of confidence.

I really look forward to meeting you all again in September as we bring all that we have learnt during these unprecedented times with us and work together setting high expectations in the holistic development of the students of Our Lady's.

I wish all our students and their families a happy, safe and peaceful summer.

Yours faithfully



Marguerite Gorby
Principal