



19th November, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s),

I hope that you and your families are keeping well. I would again like to thank you for your continued support as we work to ensure that each student is encouraged and enabled to reach her true potential.

The OLS community has established an effective routine here in school with classes running as close to normal as possible and suitable extra curricular activities happening with Covid protocols in place.

As we approach the depths of Winter I look out on the astro turf pitch and reflect on the fact that the PE Department have taken every class, almost every day, out to the pitch for PE classes to encourage our students to participate in and enjoy physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. Every lunchtime and after school each day more students and staff spill onto the pitch for extra-curricular and a much needed break from the books. It is our only outdoor space and although always an important facility for the student's wellbeing. It is now an essential element of everyday school life in these Covid influenced times. The pitch also provides the school with essential income which is utilised to provide heating and lighting, extra staffing, library resources and the many extras that are not covered by the Department of Education.

As you know, we have already started to raise funds for the much needed replacement of the school's astro turf pitch which, at over 20 years old, is well past its sell by date. In March 2020 with the committed support of the Parents' Council and the Fundraising Oversight Committee, we were about to launch our exciting Believe it To Achieve it campaign. This campaign's clear vision is to provide our students with the facilities needed to enable them to achieve their full potential be it through the arts, academia, sports, technology or science and is driven by our students, parents and past pupils. We still hope to organise it when the time allows as it is a positive initiative to promote our students' self belief and is a great way to connect with the OLS diaspora.

In the meantime, the replacement of the pitch becomes more important than ever in the short term and we are delighted to continue to benefit from the generosity of our community and have over €105,000 raised to date. The reality of the pitch is becoming closer and we would like to ask for your support for two fundraising initiatives this year. We are aware that

Templeogue Road, Terenure,
Dublin 6w, D6WKF44

T: 01 490 3241
F: 01 492 2511

E: principal@olschool.ie
W: www.olschool.ie

Principal:
Marguerite Gorby

Deputy Principals:
Stephen Rhatigan, Aoife Ronan

this is a challenging time financially for many in our community and only ask those who are in a position to help us to do so.

We will hold our annual School Sponsored Walk next Spring in aid of the Sports Facilities Fund which you have generously supported in the past.

Along with our usual charitable initiatives for Christmas, we will also hold an OLS 12 Gifts of Christmas Raffle this December with funds raised going towards the replacement of the school pitch. A big thanks to Microsoft who have sponsored the main raffle prize, a Surface Go 8 GB Pentium Gold worth approx €650.

We are immensely grateful to the donations and contributions given to us by local businesses each and every year. However, as we are very aware, local businesses within our community continue to face many challenges and therefore we have chosen not to knock on their door this time. Instead, we are looking to you, the parents, your friends and family to please see if there is any prize, large or small, that you can offer towards the raffle....vouchers, an offer of your company's services, goods for hampers, wine etc. All will be gratefully received.

Please ask your daughter to leave it in to Reception asap or alternatively please feel free to mail me on Principal@olschool.ie with any offers of additional assistance with this fundraising project. We also hope that you can support the raffle by buying tickets when they are released or by donating to the fund.

Many thanks for your continued support as we work collaboratively to prioritise our students' wellbeing in OLS.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Kelly', written over a horizontal line.

Principal