

Tús maith, leath na h-oibre

**St. Joseph's National School,
Leitrim Village,
Co Leitrim.
N41 EC81
Charity Name: Leitrim Mxd NS**

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Website: www.leitrim-ns.ie
Roll No: 01125B
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Theme for School Year 2020 – 2021
“Childhood is a journey, not a race”

Principal: Richella Kelly Deputy Principal: Siobhán Finnegan McElgunn

11th January 2021

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

New Year Wishes

On behalf of the entire school community, I wish you and your family a healthy, happy and prosperous 2021. Please adhere to public health advice and keep safe.

Online Teaching and Learning

Thanks to everyone who collected pupil's textbooks and workbooks etc last Saturday. We are back to online teaching and learning from today! Please do your very best to engage with your child's class teacher(s) and complete activities. Teachers know this is difficult and many of our teachers are also involved with the home schooling of their own children. That said please try your best to engage.

Contacting the school over the school closure

There will be no postal deliveries to the school over the next few weeks. I will check the post at regular intervals. It will not be possible to leave a message on the school phone. If you need to contact the school or me please e-mail the school at leitrimns@gmail.com and I will strive to get back to you as soon as possible. I do not have internet access where I live but I will strive to check school e-mails on a daily basis. If you have any issue or concern in relation to your child and their education or any learning activity, please contact your child's teacher via the class e-mail address. The teacher will get back to you within 24 to 48 hours.

Admission for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

Our Admission process for the 2021- 2022 school year is now open. You will find all the information you need (Admission Policy, Application Form for Admission and Annual Admission Notice) on the Admission Tab of the school website, www.leitrim-ns.ie. You can also request an Application Form for Admission from the school. The closing date for admissions for the 2021 – 2022 school year will be **14th January 2021**. There will be 27 places available for Junior Infants again next year.

Please note that returning a completed application form with a copy of your child's birth cert and utility bill does not guarantee a place in the school. In the event that the school is over- subscribed the Admission Policy will be adhered to in allocating places. Should this arise parents have the right to seek an appeal

Parent Teacher Meetings via Phone Call

With Level 5 restrictions in place until 1st December it was not possible to hold our Parent Teacher meeting before Christmas. In the interest of public health, the DES have advised school to make

other arrangements for Parent Teacher meetings this year instead of the usual face to face meetings. The BOM are striving to protect the health and welfare of all pupils, parents and school staff and have decided that Parent Teacher Meetings will take place **via telephone** this school year.

The current school closure has impacted on our planned dates for our Parent Teacher Telephone meetings. I will be in contact with you when the school re-opens regarding the exact dates of these meetings. This year you will be able to **book your preferred time slot using Aladdin Connect**. I will forward instructions at a later date.

Each telephone call will last **no longer than 10 minutes**. If you require longer then you will have to contact your child's teacher(s) to make alternative arrangements. Teachers will telephone parents on a **private number** and it's important you will be available to take the call at the allocated time.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns about your child, please contact his/ her class teacher via the class e-mail address. Please remember that teachers cannot reply to your e-mails during class time. Teachers will reply as soon as possible inside 24 to 48 hours.

Important Notice re BOM

Board members are **not** delegates of their electorates. They have **no** obligation to either report back to their electors or to take instruction from them on how to vote at Board Meetings. Such reporting may be a breach of confidentiality requirements.

Yours sincerely

Richella Kelly

Richella Kelly,
Principal