

Killurney National School

Killurney, Ballypatrick, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

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Principal: Mrs Tanya O'Brien

Date: 20th August 2020

Reopening our school: Part 2

Dear parents,

Last week you should have received the logistical plan for reopening our school next week which outlined all of the steps that we have taken in our school to ensure optimum physical distancing by increasing separation and decreasing interaction.

As you are probably aware, this is a very 'live document' which may be adapted at any time following further guidance and advice.

As planned and previously communicated, our school will reopen for Junior Infants only next Wednesday, 26th August and all other classes will return on Thursday 27th August. During the first few weeks back to school we will place a great emphasis on the childrens' wellbeing. They have missed a significant amount of time in school and we want to reassure them that school will be a safe, happy, place for them and we will encourage them to share any concerns that they may have with their teacher. We will go through all of the changes with the children on a daily basis until it becomes part of their daily routine.

If you have not had a chance to read Part 1 of the plan I sent you please do so before your child returns next week.

Further guidance in relation to books, stationery, lunch boxes etc:

- As I have mentioned previously, all children in all classes will have their own individual work station. Further to this I have purchased plastic storage boxes for each child with a lid which will be kept under the child's desk. The child will keep all

books, copies, stationery etc in this box only and no sharing of any such materials will be permitted.

- The children will have no homework up to the 14th September (First 2 and a half weeks). This is to allow the children some time to adjust to being back in school and to the new arrangements. After this we will review it to keep the volume of books going home to a minimum.
- Children will not need a school bag in school until 14th September and we ask all children to bring their books, copies and materials to school on their first day back in a plastic bag that we can dispose of. Once they have brought in their required 'Back to School' materials on the first day, they will then only need to bring their lunch boxes with them every day until 14th September.
- Reminder that all Junior Infants will finish school every day at 12pm (this will include their small break) until Monday 14th September and will at that stage go home at 2 pm with our Senior Infants.

Responsibilities for parents:

- Please ensure that your child has a packet of tissues and a mini-hand sanitiser when coming to school. These must be replaced when empty.
- Books and copies **must** be covered in a plastic covering before coming into school. Book rental books will be covered before being assigned to the children also. Book rental books will not be given to the children until the first installment of the school payment fees is made.
- Please ensure that your child knows and uses the protocols around coughing/sneezing/use of tissues/hand sanitisers/washing hands before returning to school.
- Parents must ensure that their children have their lunch boxes and materials required with them every day coming to school to avoid adults having to come to the school during the day.
- Parents, please be mindful of parking in the morning and evening. As the Senior Room children will now enter and exit through the main gate, you are not permitted to park here at any time. Please find a space adjacent to the playing field or outside Killurney Hall. If you are concerned that you are parked too far away for young children, you may of course walk closer to the gates to collect your child. Please do not congregate outside the school at any time. Also please be mindful of other parents trying to park. Drop off time is between 9.10 am and 9.20am. Collection time for junior and senior infants is 2pm. (12pm for Junior Infants until 14th September) Collection time for the remaining classes is 3pm with one class per classroom

dismissed at a time. If parking becomes an issue for parents, we may need to revisit this and introduce staggered drop off and pick up times.

Reminder, that If your child is in one of the following categories, they should not attend school:

- Children who have been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have been in contact with a person who has been diagnosed with Covid-19
- Children who have a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending
- Children who have been in contact with a person who has a suspected case of Covid-19 and the outcome of the test is pending.
- Children with underlying health conditions who have been directed by a medical professional not to attend school
- Children who have returned home after travelling abroad and should self-isolate for a period of 14 days
- Children who are showing symptoms of Covid- 19 should not attend school until they have been given the all clear by their GP

Thank you for taking the time to read our detailed plans and policies. You will find all these documents on our website also if you want to access them at any time. Please let me know if you have any further queries or concerns that you may have about your child starting/returning to school in September. As always, we are here to help in any way we can. We look forward to the academic year ahead and will work together in the best interests of our children during these challenging times.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Tanya O'Brien
Principal