



15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been incredibly busy and there has been a significant amount of additional work due to the last-minute government changes. I am very grateful to the staff for adapting so quickly to these demands.

We were able to set up our testing site last week due to the hard work of Mrs Fear, Finance and Resources Director who is co-ordinating the testing programme. We have now successfully tested several members of staff, together with the students who are in school. We will provide further information regarding wider testing once we know when school will re-open to all students.

We are all committed to ensuring that your children fulfil their God-given potential and this remains at the heart of all we do. Mrs McGinty wrote to you all regarding remote learning earlier this week, and teachers are working extremely hard to deliver high-quality remote learning, alongside managing childcare and caring for family members in many cases. I also acknowledge the challenges of remote learning for parents and thank you for supporting your children so well. The vast majority of students have demonstrated excellent commitment to their studies and we will continue to monitor and support students who are finding remote learning more difficult. It is very important that all students make the most of the learning opportunities available to them, and continue to develop valuable skills whether they are working from home or in school. I realise that there are many financial pressures on families, but I want to thank all parents who have been able to contribute to the School Fund. This week we invested in Chromebooks to support staff and students with online learning and this was only possible through your generosity.

Finally, thank you very much to the parents who have emailed us with positive feedback over the past couple of weeks. This feedback has been shared with staff and your messages of appreciation have been well received. We will continue to work together as a community and support one another through this challenging time. We continue to pray for God's blessing for all who are suffering in any way at this time. In the words of Pope Francis:

"Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone."

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms A. Waugh-Lucas'.

Ms A. Waugh-Lucas,
Headteacher