



ST. MARY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

HOLY FAITH CONVENT, GLASNEVIN, DUBLIN 11



21st December 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

We are writing to inform you of our new arrangements for sharing your daughter's progress reports with you from January 2018. As you are aware we changed over to the VSware MIS (Management Information System) in November 2016 and we are delighted now to be able to offer you access to your daughter's reports online. Results will be available to view from 12th January and in advance of that date you will receive by text your own personal login details, which will give you access to all reports and attendance records for your daughter. Hard copies will no longer be posted out, but you will always have access to all progress reports through VSware.

Here at St Mary's we value the high standards that we advocate with the help and support of parents/guardians and the whole school community. In order to continue to maintain these standards we would like to take this opportunity to outline some important points that we will be reiterating to students at the beginning of the next term:

- Students must present in full uniform (including black shoes) every day. The only exception is where a medical note has been provided.
- Trousers are now an optional part of the school uniform and these can be purchased from Grants. Only official school trousers may be worn as part of the uniform.
- Students should only wear the school jacket, which can be purchased from Grants of Manor Street. Good quality second hand jackets are available if students have lost or damaged their school jackets. Please ensure that students have their names marked clearly on all uniform labels.
- Only school scarves are allowed on the premises and these can be purchased at reception at the reduced rate of €5.00 each.
- The only beverage that may be consumed during class is water.
- Students are reminded that Roll Call is at 8.45am sharp every day and students not presenting for roll call will be marked as late or absent.
- To avoid congestion we have a one-way system on the stairs. Students and staff ascend by the stairs close to the staffroom and descend by the stairs at reception.
- Only students in possession of a valid lift pass are permitted to use the lift.
- Students may use the water dispenser and vending machine during the following times; before class in the morning, during both breaks and after class in the evenings.



- All lates, absences and requests to leave early should be reported to the year head through the pages provided in the school journal.

On health and safety grounds we would like to remind parents/guardians dropping off and collecting students that the staff car park is strictly off limits. We would also ask you not to perform U-turns in the vicinity of the school as this has been reported as a health and safety risk, and also not to park in the yellow boxes outside the school which must be kept clear at all times.

As you are aware we were invited by the Department of Social Protection to join the school meals scheme in September of this year and since then breakfast has been available to all students free of charge at the following times: from 8.10am to 8.40am in St Mary's Kitchen and from 10.55am to 11.10am (morning break) at the Glanmore Station on the third floor. A combination of the following breakfast items – cereals, fruit, oat bars, milk, juice, scones, cheese, crackers, yogurt and rice cakes – is available to students daily. We are delighted with the numbers availing of this opportunity and would welcome and urge all students to participate.

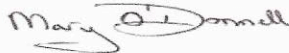
An online version of our Christmas Newsletter will be available before the end of December. We will alert you on the App when it is ready to view on our website. It has been a wonderful term for St Mary's as the newsletter testifies, capturing a flavour of the wide array of extra-curricular activities flourishing in the school while also attesting to the high standards of teaching and learning that continue to be the most important hallmark of the academic life of St Mary's. We would urge those of you who have not yet done so to download our School App which is linked to our website, and is the easiest and most effective way to keep informed about the day to day life of the school and important events taking place.

We look forward to your continued support and cooperation in the New Year and would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and a peaceful Christmas and health and happiness in 2018.

Yours sincerely,



Bernadette Bourke
Principal



Mary O'Donnell
Deputy Principal



Frances Devaney
Deputy Principal