



ST. MARY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL
HOLY FAITH CONVENT, GLASNEVIN, DUBLIN 11



5th May 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As the month of May begins our thoughts and prayers are, as ever, with you all and especially those who have been impacted negatively by the Coronavirus.

We are very aware of how stressful the last seven weeks have been for students and for yourselves and truly appreciate the great efforts you have made to ensure that the remote learning initiative has been successful. We are aware also that due to family and other circumstances it has not been as easy or sometimes even possible for some students to engage with teaching and learning during the pandemic. We understand the difficulties some families are experiencing and ask only that students do their best to engage with their teachers online and to keep up with the work. If students have fallen behind and feel overwhelmed we ask them to reach out to us and hopefully we can help them to re-engage slowly but surely and at their own pace. We all understand how this can happen and are fully supportive of any efforts made to engage with the work and we would say to any student who feels this way to link in with us. Your teachers, tutors, counsellors, year heads and ourselves are here for you and we urge and encourage you to reach out to us for support and guidance in these difficult times.

The roadmap for the rest of the academic year has been outlined to all students by their teachers who will be doing revision and catch-up classes between now and Friday 22nd May. Teachers will be setting tasks, assignments and projects during the next two weeks which will go towards the end of year assessment. The week of Monday 25th to Friday 29th May has been designated an Assessment Week during which each teacher will set a short online assessment task in their subject(s). All assessment will be completed for 1st, 2nd and 5th year students by the end of term – Friday 29th May, and reports will be available on VShare after 12th June.

Our main priority for our students now is that they remain safe and well – mentally and physically – and continue to follow the HSE guidelines which have helped nationally to curb the spread of Covid-19. We look forward to the day when we can all safely return to school and they can resume their education in St Mary's free from the fear of the virus which has been hanging over them since late February.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and guardians, for your cooperation, patience and understanding. Your support for our remote teaching initiative has made it possible for us to keep teaching and learning alive for our students during a very trying and unprecedented time.

We hope you and your families stay safe and well and extend our warmest wishes to you.

Yours faithfully,

Bernadette Bourke
Principal

Mary O'Donnell
Deputy Principal

Frances Devaney
Deputy Principal

