



A.M.D.G.

CRESCENT COLLEGE COMPREHENSIVE S.J.

22/10/2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that all of our school community are keeping well as we reach our mid-term break. On the wall just outside my office is a plaque gifted by the class of 2006 with the inscription 'Ancora imparo' which translates to "Still I am learning". Definitely at this time it is an apt moment to reflect on all the learning that is currently taking place for our school community in these difficult Covid times.

Some Updates:

Student Wellbeing: I think the vast majority of students have settled back into the routine of school life very well. We also appreciate that this may not be the case for some students. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there are areas that you think we can practically help with for students to reengage with school life.

Code of Behaviour: Following consultation with staff, parents council, student council and our Board of Management, we have a new Code of Behaviour in place. This process had begun before Covid-19 but it now has updated protocols on Covid-19. These protocols are to keep the whole school community safe. All parents/guardians must review the Code with your son/daughter and sign the "Letter of Agreement" before our return after midterm.

The Code of Behaviour will be sent via app and email for your review. There will be a link for the "Letter of Agreement" which you will be required to complete. The deadline to submit the Letter of Agreement is Monday, 2nd November 2020.

Junior Cycle Results: These results were distributed to students last Wednesday. Well done to all our students who worked so hard last year to achieve these results.

Virtual Open Night 2020/21: This year we had a virtual open night. I hope our presentation gave a sense of our vision for Crescent and it is available on our school website to view for siblings who intend to enter Crescent in 2021. I would like to thank William Buckley a parent of children in our school for the excellent work he carried out on our behalf in putting together our presentation.

School Uniform: For the upcoming winter months and the need for ventilation in the classrooms we are changing our school uniform policy. Students must have a school tie, shirt and jumper. They will be allowed to wear extra layers in class however they must have a school tie and shirt on. There cannot be any students in class with a jacket on and not the other required items. This is a practical solution in these times but I must reiterate that we are proud of our school uniform so please have your shirt, tie and jumper on underneath any additional layers.

Sixth Year Students: Mid-Term should be about recharging the batteries and get a break until school resumes. Of course have a study and revision plan but try to have a different focus for the week ahead. I know it is difficult with the current level 5 restrictions but it is important to give yourself space away from the books!!

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Shelters & Outside Covering for Lunch Breaks: We are beginning work on 8 covered pods to supply shelter for students at break-time. The 8 pods will hopefully be constructed over the midterm break or shortly afterwards. We will also be putting a sheltered cover over the seating area outside of the canteen area. This may take a little longer to put in place. I would like to thank the Jesuit Provincial for his financial support and also we are using school funds to assist with the work.

Supervised Study: Our supervised study programme will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week from 10am to 5pm.

Extra-Curricular Activity: I would like to thank all our staff and volunteer coaches for the time and effort in providing an extra-curricular programme. Fiachra O'Dwyer as sports co-ordinator is constantly monitoring what is possible even at level 5. We will keep you updated with any changes that have to happen. Definitely exercise is a crucial aspect of student wellbeing but we have to ensure that we are compliant with best practices in terms of Covid-19.

Fergus Creagh Bursary: I would like to congratulate Oran Curran Coleman and Aaron Kelly from the class of 2020 for being selected as worthy recipients of the Fergus Creagh Bursary which will assist both students in their chosen college pathway. I would like to thank the friends of Fergus who support this bursary each year in his memory. A manifestation of 'men and women' for others.

Student Council 2020 & Prefects: Ms. Antoinette Roche has been busy with the student and prefect council. Forty one new prefects have been appointed across transition year, fifth and sixth year. I also look forward to working closely with the officers of the student council. Sean Fitzgerald (Chair), Jonah Colgan (Vice Chair), Karen Mulvihill (Secretary), Maeve Keogh (Treasurer) and Shane Doyle (P.R.O.) will be a fantastic group to work with.

Best Wishes,
Diarmuid Mullins