

Coláiste na hInse



Friday 5th February 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to our 5th end of week briefing.

1. As of today, at 3PM there have been no further updates from the Department of Education and Skills in relation to Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate examinations, return of 6th year daltaí, reopening of our Special Needs Unit An Cuan or full school reopening. We were sent a briefing on Wednesday from Minister Foley to say that talks were ongoing with Education partners and that she was hopeful to have some concrete decisions by Friday 5th February or early the following week. I will keep daltaí and parents informed as soon as I have any further information.
2. Wellness week went well this week with daltaí enjoying fun activities, reduced homework and extended sos and lón time. Extended sos and lón times will not happen every week as the same subjects are being shortened each week, which would over time significantly reduce teaching and learning time. We intend to have a wellness week every three weeks going forward.
3. Teachers are committed to increasing daltaí participation and engagement by following the REVIEW – NEW – DO lesson structure. Use of Breakout rooms for small group work and discussion are also being rolled out.
4. Parents and Daltaí have been emailed the school's updated AUP policy. It would be appreciated if any queries or comments on this policy could be emailed to me by 5PM next Monday ahead of our next Board of Management meeting next Tuesday.
5. We are sending out a remote teaching and learning survey to parents/guardians this evening. We hope that this survey gives us a good picture of how remote teaching and learning is going and highlights any issues that need to be addressed.
6. The next meeting of our parent's association will be held next Tuesday at 7.30PM. This meeting will take place remotely on Microsoft TEAMS. If you would like to attend this meeting, please email Gabrielle Harte (DP) on gharte.cni@lmetb.ie and she will send you a link.
7. Huge congratulations to two of our daltaí. IB dalta Kyla Boyle was just pipped for 1st place in the Mace All-Ireland debating championship last week and her sister Phoebe was crowned 1st year all-Ireland champion in the same competition.
8. IB daltaí got involved in three creative workshops this as part of our international Erasmus caretaker project – well done to all involved and thank you to Iníon Tiernan for organising this.

Is Mise Le Meas,

Eilís Flood