

8/02/'22

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope that this letter finds you all well. We are writing to you around a range of school areas.

Permanent Accommodation:

As you know, An Bord Pleanála were due to make a decision on our permanent accommodation by 21st December 2021. We have been informed that this date has been pushed back to Tuesday 15th February. Please keep an eye on their website over the week commencing 14th February. We will update you further as soon as we get news. Our planning reference number is 311174.

HEPA filters:

Following independent advice and guidance from the Buildings Unit in the JMB, our Board of Management has decided to not purchase Hepa filters at this point. This is due to the fact that all of our classrooms have a minimum of three large windows and door that open directly to the open air ensuring excellent ventilation by natural means throughout the school day.

CO2 Monitors:

All of our classrooms have CO2 monitors installed. These monitors give us an indication of the level of air quality in the room throughout the day. Staff monitor the levels of CO2 in the room and adjust the ventilation accordingly for different periods during the day.

Windows Open:

The classrooms operate with windows open throughout the day. Windows are fully opened in the morning, at the end of the day and when students are not in the classroom as per the department of education guidelines. The windows are partially open during class time. Our heating is fully on in order to try and maintain heat in the room. Staff will continue to adjust windows and doors during periods of cold weather to maintain an appropriate balance between ventilation and comfort levels. As previously mentioned, we encourage all students to wear a base layer to school and warm outer garments. We would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives to school wearing appropriately warm clothing for spring weather.

All the above procedures along with social distancing, hand sanitisation, extra cleaning and mask wearing are in place to ensure our school community complies with COVID guidelines for schools.

PSA Meeting:

Our PSA Committee are hosting an online meeting for all parents and guardians on Tuesday 15th February at 7.30pm. Our PSA Committee consists of:

- Chair: Oisin Coghlan
- Secretary: Laura Mulrooney
- P.R.O: Tara Mullen

- Board of Management: Helen Blake & Patrick Brennan
- Staff Representatives: Ciara Mealy & Niall Behan

You will receive a zoom invite along with agenda and draft constitution over the coming days.

Community Day:

You are all invited to our first ever Community Day which will take place on Saturday 26th March from 10.00am – 1.00pm. Please also spread the word, particularly to any prospective parents who have children in 4th or 5th class. We hope that this event will provide visitors to our school with an opportunity to:

- meet members of staff
- tour our school campus
- explore the learning experiences that hcetss has to offer
- learn about our range of extra and co-curricular clubs
- meet our student leaders
- view detailed drawings for our permanent accommodation

School Closure:

In lieu of the national holiday recently announced for Friday 18th March, we will now be closed on Wednesday 16th March. Please see updated school diary. As outlined in previous letter, we are still awaiting confirmation of our whole staff Autism Support training day.

February Check In Reports:

Following consultation last year with students, parents and staff, it was decided to introduce a February check in report. This report while shorter in length than Winter and Summer Reports will provide valuable feedback to you on your child's progress over a range of areas and will clearly highlight for you any areas of concern. These areas have been identified following a detailed analysis of our recent summative reports where our assessment team identified common areas suggested for improvement. The five areas addressed will be

- Homework – The standard and frequency of homework being submitted.
- Classwork – The standard of classwork completed and engagement in class activities.
- Effort – Overall effort in the class
- Organization – Being ready to learn in class and at home, iPad/materials present and charged
- Attendance

Teachers are in the process of completing these reports and we will notify you next week when they are available to be viewed via Vs Ware.

Best wishes,



Pádraig Conaty

Principal



Mick Heffernan

Deputy Principal