



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA  
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

Dear parents,

### **Covid safety.**

This week was difficult for many parents as full classes were asked to isolate as per DE guidance. I thank each parent who worked so well with us, it was very challenging for everyone. Last night new arrangements were made by DE with the aim being that a more targeted approach to isolation will now come into place, reducing the numbers who need to go off if a child in their class tests positive. I am not quite sure how well this will work out with our younger classes as it is very difficult to identify close contacts in these situations where the pupils are interacting in a more physical and 'up close' way, but I am hopeful that all will unfold positively in the future. **PHA staff are taking over the management of this, see the letter opposite from Chief Medical Officer.**

**I remind parents that Lateral Flow Tests are readily available in school, if you are concerned about your child coughing or presenting with other symptoms of Covid. Please ask for these as needed.**

### **Update re homework.**

We have decided to spend the first two weeks of term revising core elements of literacy and Numeracy from your child's previous year group content. This will enable us to see if there are gaps. Once we have this crucial information we will decide on the pace and pitch of homework. The children are really working hard at the moment and I urge you to enjoy a little while without homework, we will all benefit from getting this correct.

### **School counselling service.**

I am delighted to have access to our school counsellor Mrs O'Hare, each Friday morning. If you feel your child needs access to this service, please telephone me on 028 30262175 or email me on [mmonaghan771@c2kni.net](mailto:mmonaghan771@c2kni.net) You and I can have a chat to establish if this would be appropriate. The list for term 1 is currently being drawn up.

I wish you a lovely weekend,  
With kind regards,

*Mrs Monaghan*