**Letter from the Principal October 2020**

Dear Parents,

As we head towards the midterm break I would like to update you on a number of matters

**COVID 19**

We are all concerned at the rise in the number of cases of COVID 19 nationally and in particular in Cork. There is also a lot of talk both in the media and on social media on how much information parents should or are entitled to receive if there is a case in a school. Please find here a document entitled: Covid-19 Schools Community Testing Pathway; [Q+and+A+Covid+19.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d5d3b224a04b700018d09a1/t/5f8d759049970b619a495c85/1603106253432/Q+and+A+Covid+19.pdf)

This document was produced by the HSE in conjunction with the Department of Education and should provide answers to any question you have in relation to a case or suspected case of COVID 19 in schools. I will keep you updated if the information in this document changes. The school will only be informed about cases where the HSE deem it appropriate. To date the school has not been contacted by the HSE.

As already said, we are very happy with how our students have adhered to and cooperated with our procedures for keeping our school safe. The majority have been exemplary and thank you for that massive effort. However, there is one area of concern we have and that is when students are having their lunch. It is very important that they remain 2 meters away from their friends when they are eating their lunch outside and that they put on their masks when they have finished eating. Please impress upon your child the importance of social distancing when having their lunch.

**Code of Behaviour**

Our Code of Behaviour has been updated to include a Health and safety Control of Covid 19 policy for students. It sets out for students and parents/guardians, the Covid 19 health and safety control measures to be followed by students in our school and ensure that any non-adherence to the measures concerned can be addressed by the school through the school’s code of behaviour for students. This policy:

Ø Focuses on creating a positive and safe environment for teaching and learning in the particular context of COVID-19

Ø Ensures that all students are made aware of the public health requirements as they relate to schools in a COVID-19 context and the particular context of our own school

Ø Encourages students to take personal responsibility for their actions and create and nurture a positive climate that reinforces good behaviour

The policy can be found here; [Code of Behaviour](https://www.mcegan.ie/images/2020-2021/CodeofBehaviourCovidupdate.pdf)

**Deadline for new entrants**

The deadline for applications for first years for the 2021/22 academic year is the 23rd October at 4.00pm. You can view our online Open Night and download an application form on www.mcegan.ie

**October Assessment**

All years have now completed their October assessment. Results are available on VSware. Please contact the school at 026-41076 or email [info.office@megan.ie](mailto:info.office@megan.ie) if we are having issues accessing the results

**Teams and One Note**

All students have been given their username and password for MS Teams and MS OneNote. Many teachers are using the platforms to give homework and receive work from their students. Please ensure that your son/daughter can log on successfully from home. If you have any difficulties, please email [info.office@mcegan.ie](mailto:info.office@mcegan.ie)

It has been a long half term and we hope that all students have a relaxing and safe midterm break.

Kind regards,

Ms. Trish Lynam Ms. Margaret Corkery

Principal Deputy Principal