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Scoil Naomh Iobhar.
Castlebridge,
Co. Wexford.
Mr. Pat Goff
(Chairperson of Board)
Edward Lyons(Principal)

24th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Firstly, on behalf of the Board of Management of the school we would like to say our thoughts are with everyone who has been affected by the Coronavirus outbreak. We wish anyone who is sick a speedy recovery. We know that many of you are going to great efforts to physically isolate. We know it's hard and we applaud your efforts. Together we will fight/overcome this virus.

With regards to schooling, it's uncharted territory for all of us so we think we have to take our time to navigate through this, while balancing the needs of pupils, parents and teachers. Teachers sent home 'suggested' work for two weeks, up until 28th March. If your child managed to get some/all work done, great. If your child didn't manage to get work done, don't worry, he/she will not fall behind. The work will be covered multiple times when we return to school. Teachers will be in touch with you with more 'suggested' work in due course for after Easter – don't feel your child has to cover it. The teachers are also posting an excellent letter on the website on the subject and the importance of focusing on everyone's well being at this stressful time. I would advise you all to read it as it full of common sense.

The teachers are constantly updating our website with excellent links for you and your children.

Listed below is our ideal for the children in our school:

- **Read every day....this is the most important one**
- **A bit of writing every day**
- **Some free writing now and then, if they will keep a diary or something. If not would they draw a comic?**
- **Practice tables (Use learntimestables.com)**
- **Practical hands on Maths – be that via cooking, cleaning, outdoors or some Maths' games – physical or digital**
- **Some fine motor skills – Lego, cutting, playdough, tidying up!!**
- **Physical exercise every day – laps of the house, obstacle courses, family walks etc.**
- **Some Art/Music where possible through the week – it doesn't need to be guided**
- **Get the older ones to work independently on a project – this is great for keeping brains ticking over! Get them researching in a book or online and get them to put something together to present to you or your family.**
- **If younger, lots of imaginative free play, the more independent the better**
- **Above all, enjoy family time together and have FUN!**

*****Watch New2Day on RTE1, Free fitness class every day at 12pm – www.donnadunnefitness.ie and RTE school TV – 11am to 12pm daily.**

Remember, health and well-being are the main priorities until we go back to some degree of the normality that we have taken for granted. I wish you all good health in these difficult times. Please follow all the advice on the HSE website .

We are aware of the huge number of our wonderful parental body who are frontline staff in our hospitals, nursing homes, HSE, civil service and other related areas. We as the Board of Management want to take this opportunity on behalf of the Patron, Parents ,Teachers and the whole school community to offer you a huge word of thanks for your selfless and courageous work at this difficult time. Further a word of appreciation to everyone engaged in keeping the country functioning at this time. Lastly to all those parents at home with their children look after yourselves as well as your children and don't underestimate the huge contribution you are making to defeat this virus.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Goff.
Chairperson .

Edward Lyons.
Principal.