



SAINT MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT

Principal: Mr P Gilchrist
E mail: pgilchrist570@c2kni.net
Telephone: 028427 28278

53, Windmill Hill
Portaferry
Co. Down
BT 22 1RH

2nd January 2021

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to begin by wishing you all a Happy New Year and I hope and trust that your families continue to keep safe and well during this period of great uncertainty. I apologise for contacting you during the school holidays and at a weekend, but as you will appreciate 2020 was a very challenging year for everyone and unfortunately this looks likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

As you are no doubt aware, the Education Minister, Mr Peter Weir, recently announced revised plans for the reopening of schools. This is a continually evolving situation and I write to update you on how this will currently impact upon the Nursery setting at Saint Mary's.

The Minister stated that the normal reopening of schools is not sustainable in light of the deteriorating nature of the pandemic and the accompanying risks to public health. However, he also stated that Nursery Schools are to remain open as normal.

We understand that not all families may wish to send their children to the Nursery setting during this coming week. Therefore, to help us plan and make the necessary arrangements, I would be grateful if you could contact Mrs Birt at jbirt542@c2kni.net or myself at pgilchrist570@c2kni.net indicating if it is your intention to send your child to Nursery during the week beginning Monday 4th January and what days you plan on your child attending. **I would be grateful if you could make contact by 6.00pm on Sunday 3rd January.**

If you are not planning on your child attending Nursery, Mrs Birt will be issuing some suggested activities on the Seesaw app each day and will make some work packs available for your child to complete at home. These packs will be sent via the Seesaw app or can be collected from the school on Tuesday 5th January between 9am-12pm.

As ever, should you wish to discuss any aspects of this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Mrs Birt at the email addresses above.

Thank you for your continuing support and understanding on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Gilchrist
Principal