



Ramsgrange Community School

Ramsgrange, New Ross,
Co. Wexford

Tel: 051 389211

School Roll: 91431Q

Email:

office@ramsgrangecommunityschool.ie

Website:

www.ramsgrangecommunityschool.ie

Information Bulletin 22-04-2020

Dear Guardian/Parent,

I am writing to welcome you back after the Easter break and to hopefully clarify a few things for the last term.

I will be arranging online assemblies for all class groups next week. Please ask your child to download ZOOM onto their mobile phone or device. It can be downloaded for free from the App store or by going to www.zoom.us You are, of course, welcome to listen in to these assemblies. I feel it is very important for our students to stay connected with each other and their teachers and we will continue to keep facilitating this for them. We miss them! I will send a link via email to your child's email on the morning of their assembly and inform them beforehand of the day it will take place. I really look forward to 'seeing' them all.

Before Easter I rang every member of staff for updates about engagement with students. This week, Ms. Edwards and I have had online meetings with all of our subject departments. I would like to give you some brief feedback from teachers about the different year groups.

1st and 2nd years:

Engagement from 1st and 2nd years has been excellent. Teachers are delighted with the very high numbers of students doing work sent to them, joining online classes etc. I really ask that you continue to encourage this engagement as it will make coming back to school so much easier for your child.



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3rd years:

Engagement from 3rd years has been poor. Understandably, the lack of clarity around exams has caused confusion, anxiety and disengagement.

Today I had a meeting with the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD) National Executive and the current situation re: schools deciding not to take part in / deliver junior cycle exams is a rapidly evolving one. The NAPD and other partners including the management bodies and unions will be meeting with the Department of Education on Friday where an announcement/statement is expected.

I will send a more detailed update on Junior Cycle on Monday.

5th years:

The staff are very concerned about 5th years. Engagement with teachers has been very poor. Five teachers told me today that they prepared online classes, prepped the students in advance and waited online and no student either signed in online or sent apologies to the teacher. We know that these are very difficult times and there many issues with wifi connections etc. but please encourage your child to stay in touch with their teachers. 5th years are missing critical leaving cert course work. They will be severely disadvantaged sitting leaving cert exams if they do not keep working with their teachers. We are here to support them in every way we can so if you need help with your child please reach out to us.

6th years & LCAs:

Staff have reported a mixed response from our 6th years. Understandably, the lack of clarity is causing major disruption and anxiety to us all but especially our students. As with Junior Cycle I hope to be in position to provide more clarity to you all next



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Monday. I have gathered a lot of data from teachers this week. Just to let you know that there EVERY subject has completed 90% or more of their course. (This does not include practical's and portfolios yet to be completed). Students that 'go the distance', keep in touch with their teachers and sit the leaving cert will be okay!!!! Please please encourage your child to 'hang in there'!

Encouraging your child to continue contacting their teachers will really help at this time.

In this difficult time, if you require basic food assistance please text 0876984835 with your name and your child's name.

Our Home School Liaison, Sharon McDermott is available to contact on 0892211764.

Child Protection:

If you have child protection concerns, please go to www.tusla.ie or contact the Duty Social Worker on 0539198201. In the case of a child protection emergency, contact the Gardai.

If you wish to contact me, I am available at rachel.oconnor@ramsgrangecommunityschool.ie .I will make every effort to respond to your query promptly and support you in any way I can.

Yours sincerely,

_____ Rachel O' Connor, **Principal**



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