Parent Update 12/02/21

To all our Parents/Guardians:

First and foremost, we hope you are all safe and well at this time. A number of members of our community have suffered bereavements in recent times and we keep you in our thoughts and prayers. The last number of weeks have been a challenging time for us all but we have achieved a great deal.

**Breaktime:** Midterm starts today and we hope everyone gets a well-deserved break from the books and screens. The vast majority of our students have engaged in a positive and meaningful way with remote learning. We would like to thank all our parents and guardians for their ongoing support and say well done to our students for all their efforts.

**Reopening Date**: As of today we have no definite date from the Department of Education for the reopening of schools. There has been some speculation that Leaving Cert Students may return on the 22nd but we have received no official notice of this.

**State Exams**: Equally we have received no notice about the format of the Leaving Cert or Junior Cert this year. The uncertainty around the state exams is very frustrating and causing great anxiety among both students and teachers.

**Pre Exams**: These exams are postponed until we know the format of the state exams.

**Transition Year**: Ms Mc Tighe our Transition Year coordinator is sending a separate email updating parents of Transition Year students. Also please note that there is only one space left for TY 21-22.

**Parent Teacher Meetings:** As we are unable to hold PT meetings this year we are providing progress reports around the time the PTMs were due to be held. The 3rd and 6th progress reports were available before Christmas and the 1st year progress reports are available online through VS Ware since yesterday. We hope to make the 5th, TY and 2nd year reports available during March.

**Communication:** During lockdown it is more important than ever for us to be able to keep in touch with you the parents/guardians. If you are not receiving any texts and/or emails please get in touch with the office ( office@mercywaterford.com or 051 373476 ) to update your contact details.

**Staying safe online:** As your daughter is spending more time than normal online you might find the following link useful to help keep her safe while online : https://www.webwise.ie/bekindonline/

As always you are very welcome to contact us should you have any concern. Enjoy the midterm.

Mary Meade Johnny Brennan