



Holy Trinity College

9-29 Chapel Street
COOKSTOWN
Co Tyrone
BT80 8QB

Principal: Mrs I Russell BA (Hons) MTD PQH (NI)

A Specialist Sports and English Academy

5 March 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian

I hope you and your family are keeping safe and well. With a road map about the lifting of restrictions in place, the prospect of returning to some form of normality is exciting for all of us and we are certainly looking forward to our girls and boys returning to school.

Return to School: The Department of Education forwarded their document yesterday which will enable us to welcome back Years 12 – 14 on Monday 22 March 2021. The Senior Leadership Team will review the documentation and will forward an updated version of the **Return to School** as soon as possible.

Examination update: I extend my thanks to Mr Loughran, Examinations Officer, who held online zoom meetings today for students and parents in Years 12, 13 and 14 regarding the Examination process. We recognise that students are extremely anxious at this stage and we hope that the online meetings provided an insight into exam entries, statement of results and the requirement for subject evidence. Upon their return to school, every opportunity will be afforded to our students to provide as much subject evidence as possible, so that they are awarded the grades they deserve. We request that Exam students continue to engage daily in their remote learning and present work to the best of their ability. Exam grades awarded will reflect the standard at which your son/daughter is working, taking into account the disruption which your child has faced in their learning. We await further detail from the Exams Body but I assure you that, we will all work together to ensure that each pupil can achieve their potential. It is intended that a similar Zoom meeting will be held on Monday 8 March for Year 11 pupils entered for GCSE Maths. There will also be an additional 'catch-up' session for any one unable to attend today. If you have further questions about the Exam process, please do not hesitate to contact the College either by telephone or email.

Year 12 Options: We are delighted with the large number of applications submitted to Post 16 in the course of this week – over 100 applications to date. If you have not yet submitted your application, please do so as quickly as possible, as many subject areas are almost at maximum numbers.

World Book Day: Whilst designated as yesterday, the College celebrated the wonderful power of books all week long, with many pupils and staff talking about the books they read and who inspired them to read. Holy Trinity College is privileged to have an excellent English Department and Library resource, staffed by teachers who are so passionate about reading, about opening your mind and experiencing the feelings of the character within the book. ***"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go (Dr. Seuss)"***

Community Support: The College welcomed Deputy First Minister, Michelle O' Neill, on Wednesday to learn of our support to our community via our Food Parcels and the reaching out to our Nurture pupils and supporting their well-being. Michelle also joined via zoom, Mrs Toal, Head of English and students Chloe Tracey, Kevin Mc Clean and Tristan Ferry who are competing in the Martin McGuinness Poetry Competition. Well done to all involved.



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Post Primary Applications: The Primary 7 admissions process remains open until Tuesday 16th March. All applications must be placed online via the EA website www.eani.org.uk. As an all-ability school with an inclusive ethos, each pupil will be treated as an individual to develop their skills and abilities. Year 8 pupils will be supported and challenged with many aspiring to follow an academic curriculum in Year 11 GCSE and beyond. Others may follow a more vocational route with 'hands-on' practical subjects leading to apprenticeships. Those who require additional support will receive it via our highly skilled Special Needs Department. With a wide range of subjects and extra-curricular activities on offer to Post 16 level, and excellent pastoral care and support, your child will be supported by a dedicated and committed staff, who simply want to ensure that every opportunity is afforded to them to succeed and thrive in preparation for adult life. If you have any concerns about the Post Primary Admissions process, please do not hesitate to contact the College on 028 8676 2420. Similarly, if you are aware of other pupils and parents who may wish to consider Holy Trinity College as their Post Primary school, please share this information with them as well. They too are very welcome to contact the College for further information.

Fuel Stamps and BT Wi-Fi Vouchers: These are still available for families on Free School Meals. Please contact the College as soon as possible to claim your £40 Fuel Stamps and Wi-Fi access.

Year 8 & Year 9 Form Teachers: Form Teachers of pupils in Years 8 & 9 will be conducting Parent – Teacher Meetings from Monday 8 March – Friday 12 March, to discuss with you how your son/daughter is progressing and engaging in online learning. Staff will be either using school lines or their personal device with 141 prefixed before your number so the call may come up as either No Caller ID or Unknown. Please take this opportunity to speak to your son/daughter's Form Teacher and if further support is required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Holidays: School will be closed on Wednesday 17 March and Thursday 18 March. Remote learning will resume on Friday 19 March.

All staff in Holy Trinity College will continue to do their very best to support each and every pupil. If you have any concerns or require additional support, please do not hesitate to contact the College on 028 8676 2420 or email info@holytrinityc.cookstown.ni.sch.uk.

Please continue to keep safe and look after yourselves. Congratulate your son/daughter for the great work which they are doing via remote learning. They themselves should be very proud and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Isabel R Russell

Isabel Russell
Principal