

Ar scáth a chéile a
mhairimid



Scoil an Linbh Iosa

Prosperous, Naas, Co Kildare W91 DT10
Roll No. 18515J www.prosperousns.ie
Charity Number : 20124779

Principal: Geraldine Hetherton

Tel: 045 868660 Fax: 045 892546
email: enquiries@prosperousns.ie

August 25th 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your families are keeping well.

Today was a very important day in our school, as the staff came together for the first time in months, to put the finishing touches to our preparations for the reopening of the school.

We are very excited about opening the doors on Friday and welcoming the children back. We have really missed them and are looking forward to hearing all their news. We are making every effort to create a safe and secure environment for the children and we hope they will settle in with ease.

- We have made a little **Welcome Back video** which might help prepare the children for their return.
- We are also attaching some information from **the DES and the HSE** which may be helpful as the first day back approaches.
- And we are including a link to a child-friendly **hand washing jingle** which younger children might enjoy.
- Please reinforce **hand sanitising and cough etiquette** with the children. Prepare them for the fact that the adults in the school will be wearing **face covering** during the day.
- And could you also prepare them for the fact that they may not meet up with some of their **friends on the yard**, please? We know this will be difficult for them and we will try our best to reassure them, but your prep would be very helpful.

We have received a few queries about why we are not organising the staggered starting and finishing times according to family. This is feasible in smaller schools, but in a school our size it would be logistically extremely difficult and would reduce the teaching day by 40 minutes (20 in the morning and 20 at home time). If we were to organise along family lines there would be large groups of children left unsupervised while a teacher saw off one set of family members, so that is not viable. We appreciate that the system may be inconvenient for some, but having explored all options, and following Department of Education advice, we feel this system is the best for our school at this time. The success of this arrangement is dependent on the children arriving at their assigned gate at the correct time (See previous information on Super Pods). It is also dependent on adults avoiding congregating at the school railings. Again we appreciate that having to stay outside the railings is difficult but we hope for your cooperation in this matter.

We are looking forward to getting the new school year off to a great start.

We hope your back to school preparations go well.

See you on Friday!

Take care.

Geraldine Hetherton
Principal