

December 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of our first term I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very pleasant holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Importance of Kindness

It has brought great joy to our staff to see all our students coming to school each day and for our newest students it has been a pleasure to see how well they have settled into our Clonturk community. This term a strong focus was placed on Kindness – which is one of the four pillars of Clonturk. Teaching and Learning during a pandemic has taught each of us the importance of being kind to one another. Our students have shown kindness to one another each day in our school. We are very proud of them. The celebrations on World Kindness Day – which was funded by our generous Parents Guardian Teacher Association (PGTA) allowed us as a school to recognise and celebrate this wonderful attribute.



In recognition of the positive behaviour of our students a new Roll Call of Honour has been put in place in the school. It will see students awarded through VShare a Pillar of Clonturk nomination for demonstrating these pillars that Clonturk is founded on. Each month these students names will be shared with the school community in recognition of their achievement.

New appointments

A number of appointments have been made in the school in the last few months.

1. Anna Whyte has been appointed Year Head to 3rd Year
2. Frank Doyle has been appointed Year Head to 2nd Year
3. Ella Rogers Browne has been appointed our Student Wellbeing and Ethos Coordinator
4. Kathy Barrett has been appointed our ICT / TEL Coordinator

We are delighted to be building a strong management team in our school who can support our students and parents as our school community grows.

End of Term Awards

The last day of Term will see our students spend the morning with their Tutor. There will be some fun tutor activities and each year group will have a virtual Term Awards that will



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celebrate student achievement, effort and positive behaviour this term. Students are welcome to bring in a treat to enjoy but are reminded that the sharing of food items is not allowed. **REMINDER SCHOOL FINISHES AT 12.30pm.**

Winter Assessments

Over the last couple of weeks students will have received most of their examination results. The formalised published report including teacher feedback will be available from **Tuesday 22nd of December**. These can be viewed through VShare under 'term reports'. Should you wish to receive a printed copy of the report please contact the office by email, info@clonturkcc.cdetb.ie.

As part of our assessment & reporting strategy we are strongly encouraging parental involvement in your child's learning. Some useful strategies which could be incorporated into daily family life include:

- Reflection on winter assessment results. Particularly discussions around what areas students did well in and identifying an area to improve on
- Discussion around a study plan or the students study environment

Fundraising this term

Our students have engaged in a wide range of fundraising activities this term. The charities to have benefited from our student led initiatives include, Focus Ireland, Frontline Workers, Dublin Zoo. Our final charity collection is being organised by the 5th year LCVP students who are running the Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday in aid of 'Crumlin Children's Hospital'. All support provided to these charities to date has been greatly appreciated.

Special Note for Third Year Students from Anna

This term has been a very successful one for our 3rd Years. Our students have worked diligently as they progress towards their Junior Cycle exams. Mock Junior Cycle examinations will be held in the week of February 4th 2020. Students should continue to prepare and work towards these exams.

We wish to congratulate our 3rd Years who organised a very successful fundraiser for the Make a Wish Foundation. Students treated the first and second years to a treasure hunt, quiz and movie bingo which raised the spirits for winter break. Students raised over €350. Well done. Wishing you and your families a lovely winter break and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Ethical Curriculum

We would like to commend our students on their efforts, understanding and cooperation thus far in relation to our Covid measures in school. Through our ethical curriculum, students become aware of the issues that face society; their personal position in relation to these issues and become equipped with the knowledge and ability to think critically and evaluate the possible societal responses to these issues. Our ethical curriculum is broad and saturated across all subjects. Students have been engaging very well with topics such as personal values,



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making moral and ethical decisions, beliefs and world views, gender equality and migration just to name a few.

Student Voice

As you know, we strongly encourage and support student voice in Clonturk. Our Student Council have been very busy gathering data from the student body on our dress code. Based on student and staff feedback, an updated dress code has been drafted. We would very much appreciate your input too. You will find a copy of this Draft Dress Code and related survey in your emails where we would ask that you submit feedback.

We would like to congratulate our outgoing Student Council on all their hard work over the last year. They worked tirelessly to support the student body and management alike in school and during lockdown. They secured much needed additional bike racks from Dublin City Council, have had played a huge part in the smooth return to school for all students, and have informed policy formation throughout the year. Student Council elections will be held in January - Tutors will inform students about how to put their names forward in the New Year.

New Term, New Focus

Our new term starts on Wednesday 6th January 2021. This term will see our school community focus in on the pillar of Respect. Respect for one's self, respect for each other, extending out to our school along with its facilities, and the wider community including our planet. This theme will feature strongly through Ethical Education, reaching out to all of our subjects and interactions with one another.

In advance of your student returning to school, please remember to ensure that your student has sufficient PPE equipment with them for school to include Face Mask, Hand sanitiser and sanitising wipes. By working together we are making a difference in practicing good hygienic behaviour in school. Thank you for your support on this.

#BuildClonturk

The PGTA along with the Board of Management have been working hard on the #buildclonturk campaign. Attached to this letter is an update from the #buildclonturk campaign.

Final Words

Finally, thank you for your continued support we wish you and your family a peaceful and restful break.

Kindest regards,

Wesleigh

[\(she/her/hers\)](#)

Principal

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December 2020 UPDATE FROM PGTA and BOM - #buildclonturk campaign

Dear Parent,

We are getting in touch to update you on the progress of the campaign to provide the students and staff of Clonturk Community College with the modern, purpose-built school they need and deserve. You will find more detail on the campaign in the PowerPoint presentation which was presented at the recent AGM and is now on the school website.

While we continue to work with City of Dublin Education and Training Board to ensure the necessary facilities are in place to meet the requirements of the school intake of September 2021, our primary objective remains to secure agreement, funding and delivery for a purpose-built new school on the site.

Since the election of a new government this summer, our focus has been on Minister for Education Norma Foley and her party. We have been in correspondence with all relevant Fianna Fáil representatives in the area, and parliamentary questions have been submitted to the Minister in the Dáil and Seanad on the Department of Education's plans for Clonturk. We regret to report that the Department's official response has been disappointing, although the Minister has agreed to meet a delegation from the Board of Management in January.

All indications are that the time has come for a much broader, more high-profile and high-pressure campaign to #BuildClonturk. This campaign will need to draw on the commitment, enthusiasm, skills and contacts of our large and rapidly growing school community. We look forward to hearing your views, consulting on next steps and agreeing a plan of action early in the New Year.

Regards

#buildclonturk subcommittee