

Killowen Primary School
88 Killowen Old Road
Rostrevor
Co. Down
BT34 3AE



Acting Principal
Mrs. Órla Murphy

Tel (028) 41738426

Faith, Friendship & Understanding
info@killowen.rostrevor.ni.sch.uk

Dear Parents & Guardians,

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

We hope and pray that there are better days ahead for us.

There is no doubt that we are starting the new term on the rise of a Covid peak. Every class has pupils that are isolating at the moment and this is expected to continue for the full month of January.

It is absolutely essential that you are responsible and vigilant about Lateral Flow Testing before sending your child to school each week, particularly if someone else in the household is positive, and if your child displays any symptoms please keep them at home and book a PCR test.

From Monday 10th January, children who are going to be off due to Covid will receive a work pack for home learning or activities on Seesaw for remote learning.

Children who have tested positive for Covid may return to school after 2 consecutive negative LFTs

We continue to keep the 4 classes in 2 bubbles, we practice regular hand washing and sanitising as well as distancing where appropriate. All members of staff wear face masks indoors as much as possible and the rooms are fully ventilated. We will keep going and stay open for all pupils – until we can't.

Despite all our best efforts to avoid further disruption, due to the ongoing staffing crisis and lack of teacher cover it may be necessary to merge classes in the same bubble or temporarily close a classroom if any of our teacher's test positive for Covid. This will be a last resort but for that duration, the class will switch to online learning.

Ultimately if several staff fall ill at the same time, there will be no alternative other than to close the school until we have enough staff to operate safely. Please be reassured that these are simply contingency plans that every school has to face up to this month and prepare all staff, pupils and parents for their eventuality.

Mrs Cunningham is not returning to P6/7 this month, she remains in our thoughts and prayers. Miss Mc Elroy is covering for this week until the replacement teacher starts.

More details for events coming up in Term 2 will be included in the January newsletter next week.

We send our very best wishes to every family affected by Covid at this time and pray that everyone weathers through it lightly.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation,

Mrs Ó Murphy