**St Patrick’s Primary School**

**Phased Re-opening of Schools**

**Information for Parents/Guardians**

I am writing to inform you of the details in relation to the phased re-opening of our school for face to face teaching.

**Arrangements for P1-P3**

On Wednesday 24th February, the Education Minister announced that primary schools would re-open for P1-P3 pupils from Monday 8th March until Friday 19th March.

**Please note that our school will be closed on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th March for the St Patrick’s Day break.**

During this time, the children in P1-P3 will return to the original Bubble arrangements that we had in place before the Christmas break. I have included the classes and their corresponding bubbles below.

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| **Bubble 1****Start Time 8.45****Finish Time 2.15** | **Bubble 2****Start Time 9.15****Finish Time 2.45** |
| Mrs Dooley (P1) | Mrs Comey (P1) |
| Miss McGowan (P1) | Mrs Quinn (P1) |
| Mrs Hanley (P2) | Mrs K Doherty (P2) |
| Mrs McAteer (P2) | Mrs Morroi (P2) |
| Miss McLaughlin (P3) | Miss McCormick (P3) |
| Mrs Cullen (P3) | Miss Bryson (P3) |

School meals will be available for the children in P1-P3 only at this time and any child who is entitled to a Free School Meal will **not** have to pay. All of the Covid-19 safety mitigating factors that were in place before the Christmas break will resume.

**Please note that the Education Minister has stated that from the week commencing Monday 22nd March until the Easter holidays the P1-P3 pupils will return to remote learning.**

The emphasis when children return to school will be on welcoming them back, re-assuring them and on supporting them to reconnect socially with their peers and adults within the school setting. There will be a strong emphasis on supporting the children’s emotional health and well- being as well as engaging the children in a range of practical play based activities particularly in P1 and P2.

**Arrangements for P4-P7**

The Education Minister stated that pupils from P4-P7 will continue with remote learning and that his objective is to have a full return of pupils to face to face teaching as soon as practicably possible after the Easter break.

I will keep you informed if any further relevant guidance becomes available.

Mr E Devlin