



Loreto Secondary School

Pembroke Hill, Ballynagee, Wexford. Y35WT28.



Telephone: 053-9146162

Email: reception@loretowexford.com Website: www.loretowexford.com
Office hours: 7.45am to 4.15pm Monday to Friday

19 February 2024

Dear parents/guardians and students,

I hope you had a pleasant midterm break. As we enter another short term, I write with a few brief updates and reminders.

Child Protection:

An important consideration of all schools is in the area of child protection. With this in mind, I wish to remind all parents/guardians that the procedures in relation to child protection are outlined on our website. Feedback in relation to any aspect of child protection is most welcome so please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions or observations on these procedures.

Student Support:

Please remember that we are here to help in any way possible. Initial contact is often made through our main office number (053 9146162). A list of Class Teachers is available in the school journal, and you are welcome to request a call back from any teacher by leaving a message with Carol or Darina in reception. A return call will be made when the timetable allows.

Each year group also has a Year Head. By way of reminder, I list the relevant personnel here:

Year Group	Year Head
1 st Year	Ms. E. Mullen
2 nd Year	Ms. R. Kennedy
3 rd Year	Ms. J. Byrne
4 th Year	Mr. D. O' Dowd
5 th Year	Ms. P. Kinsella
6 th Year	Ms. S. O' Donoghue

There is also a Student Support section on our website.

Parking/Road Safety:

We have recently received some reports of dangerous driving/parking in and around the school grounds. As student safety is of the utmost importance, I am asking all drivers to exercise great care when driving inside and outside the school campus, particularly near the crossing points. Please note, the car park is reserved for staff parking only and we would ask that you follow the guidance of the Facilities Management team at all times. We recognise that it is extremely busy at the end of each school day but there is very little that can be changed in that regard.

Website:

Our new look website was launched recently. We are still making some small adjustments, but we hope you find it useful and easy to navigate. I extend my thanks to Mr. O' Dowd (Deputy Principal) for his work on this project. Our homepage is updated every week, so we encourage all parents/guardians to keep an eye on the latest news section. In addition, a new school app will also be launched in the next few weeks.

Brief Reminders:

- Students arriving late to school will be given a stamp in their journal when they enter the building. 'L' is used to identify a student without a note while 'LN' is used to identify a student arriving late with a note of explanation. This note is then shown to the teacher of the 08.45 class so that they know the student has been registered with a Deputy Principal. Students repeatedly arriving late without a note will receive a detention. Since implementing this system, student punctuality has improved greatly, and this has reduced the disruption caused by those arriving late to class. Naturally, we fully understand that there can be exceptional circumstances which cause a student to be late and, for this reason, a sanction is only imposed for those who repeatedly arrive late.
- If you've not already done so, please take a moment to ensure that all items of clothing are labelled. We are constantly picking up coats, half-zips, and other school items with no names on them. This makes returning them very difficult.
- Students should not leave valuables in the changing rooms or in unlocked lockers. There are two cloakrooms in the school, one for junior students and one for senior students. These are monitored by CCTV and, thankfully, we can normally reunite items taken by mistake with their rightful owner. However, it is crucially important that we are informed of missing items **promptly**.
- Transition Year (TY) and Mock exam fees are now overdue. TY fees can be paid on Easy Payments via our website. Mock exam fees can be paid on VS Ware. If you wish to discuss either of these payments, please contact me or Ann Mc Clannon via e-mail – principal@loretowexford.com or a.mcclannon@loretowexford.com
- Finally, there are only four full school weeks until the Easter break, so we urge students to be fully present for the 24 teaching days between now and then. Strong attendance in school is directly linked to better educational outcomes and we need the support of all parents/guardians in ensuring that daily school attendance is a priority.

As we welcome the brighter evenings and drier weather (hopefully!), I wish all families a pleasant start to the term.

Yours sincerely,

John Mc Ginnity,

Principal.