



Loreto Secondary School

Pembroke Hill, Ballynagee, Wexford. Y35WT28.



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

9 January 2024

Dear parents/guardians and students,

I hope you had a pleasant Christmas and I extend my best wishes to all Loreto families for 2024.

I write with a few updates.

Student Attendance and Punctuality:

Students must be in attendance each day, wearing the correct school uniform. As this is a very short term, I ask all parents/guardians to put a renewed focus on ensuring that their daughter(s) attends school each day. There are only 22 teaching days until the February mid-term break, and I want to see as many students as possible be here for the **full** duration of each day. The school is obliged to report absences totalling 20 days to TUSLA and, when TUSLA are involved, partial days missed are also included as part of their work.

Classes begin each day at 08.45. While the vast majority of students are here on time, some have developed a habit of arriving late. Students must have a written note from a parent/guardian explaining the reason for the late arrival. Regular, unexplained late arrivals will be noted by a Deputy Principal and a sanction will be imposed.

Dates to Note:

- Monday, 22 January – TY Information Meeting for 3rd year parents (17.30)
- Tuesday, 23 January – School closed due to Junior Cycle training
- Thursday, 25 January – 1st year Parent – Teacher meeting (16.15 – 18.45)
- Monday, 29 January – Subject Choice Talk for 1st year parents (17.30)
- Monday, 29 January – Subject Choice Talk for 4th year parents (18.30)
- Wednesday, 31 January – 4th year Parent – Teacher meeting (16.15 – 18.45)

Mock Exams:

I wish to note to the following in relation to Mock examinations.

- Mock examinations for 3rd and 6th year students will be held in the school in January/February by way of preparation for the State examinations that are scheduled to take place in June.
- For this year, we have subsidised the cost of these exams in order to reduce overheads for families.
- The cost per student of examination papers, answer books and external corrections will be €100. This amount is payable either:

by logging into VS Ware and paying the fee listed **before Friday, 26 January 2024.**

or

to the School Secretary by cheque or cash before the date listed above. Cheques should be made payable to Loreto Secondary School.

- Please note, this is the first time we are using VS Ware for payments instead of Easy Payments. For the time being, we will only use VS to collect the mock fees.
- If the payment of this fee causes undue financial hardship, please feel free to contact Ann McClannon (School Secretary) or me in strict confidence either by note or by phone (053-9146162). Unlike the State examinations in June, there is no alleviation of this fee for medical card holders.
- Given that these examinations take place when normal classes are proceeding for all other year groups, it is not possible to arrange special centres and readers for students entitled to these measures in the State examinations in June.
- Students who are absent for a Mock examination will not be able to take the paper at another time.
- All students are asked to prepare very carefully for these examinations as the experience to be gained from sitting full papers under examination conditions is valuable practice for what lies ahead in June. However, these examinations should not become a source of undue stress for students. They are, simply, very useful practice for the state examinations, especially in the absence of formal examinations over the last two years. No college places will be offered on the strength of mock examination results!
- The Mock Examinations timetable will be available on the school website shortly – www.loretoexford.com.

3rd year students:

Examinations begin for 3rd year students on Wednesday, 31 January and run until Friday, 9 February 2024. During the examination period, all 3rd year students are expected to be in school every day either sitting an examination or engaged in supervised study.

Students may only leave the school in the course of the day or be absent for the full day if a note from a parent/guardian in the student's journal is presented to Ms. O' Donoghue in the normal manner between 8.25 and 8.45 each morning.

6th year students:

Examinations will commence on Friday, 26 January and run until Friday, 9 February 2024. 6th year students are only obliged to attend school during this period when they have a timetabled examination. If they choose to come to school when they do not have an examination, they must attend the room designated for study.

Kind regards,

John Mc Ginnity,
Principal.