Loreto Secondary School

Pembroke Hill, Ballynagee, Wexford. Y35WT28.

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Email: reception@loretowexford.com Website: www.loretowexford.com
Office hours: 8.15 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday

3 November 2026

Dear parents/guardians and students,

I hope you had a pleasant mid-term and that all is well as we enter this short term. I write with a number of important updates.

Industrial Action:

Unfortunately, the current industrial action remains in place. As has been the case for a number of weeks, communication will continue to be difficult as union directives mean that most teachers will not answer or make phone calls, e-mail parents or contact outside agencies. Plans for a further strike day next Thursday, 12 November seem to be gathering pace. If this day goes ahead, the school will be closed.

3rd Year Parent – Teacher Meeting:

At present, this meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 19 November between 16.15 and 18.45. However, if the industrial action is still in place, alternative arrangements may need to be put in place. I will contact the relevant parents/guardians closer to the time.

School Closure:

As per the calendar, the school will be closed on Thursday, 5 November due to a mandatory in-service for staff. Please note, this date has been set by the Department of Education, and the school has no option to adjust it.

Child Protection:

This is a reminder that revised procedures in relation to child protection are now in effect. Our Child Protection Risk Assessment and Safeguarding Statement can be viewed in the dedicated section on our website and app.

Attendance Drive:

With just over 7 weeks until the Christmas break, we ask that all students be fully present each day between now and Christmas. Prizes and rewards for students and class groups with excellent attendance in September and October will be distributed later this week. All students will now start the term afresh so hopefully we will see a large number of students achieve excellent attendance this term.

Uniform Policy:

The school uniform must be worn properly each day. Our full policy is available to view here: https://loretowexford.com/policies/

Since the pandemic, we have allowed students to wear their PE uniform on the days where they have a double class of PE timetabled. PE uniform is not to be worn on other days (unless requested to do so by a teacher for a particular reason). Where students are not in the correct uniform, a detention will be applied. Spot checks on uniform occur each week and the support of all parents/guardians in implementing the uniform policy is appreciated.

Code of Behaviour/Bí Cinéalta (Anti-Bullying):

In relation to the Code of Behaviour, I wish to thank students for their cooperation and support throughout the first term. Students are reminded to be kind and respectful towards others, in line with the Code of Behaviour. Where a sanction (e.g. detention) is applied for a breach of school rules, the sanction must be served. Failure to comply with a sanction may result in a suspension. Next week, in schools across the country, is Anti-Bullying Week and the theme centres around inclusion. In short, we ask that no student feels excluded in school and that every effort is made to be inclusive of all.

General Reminders:

- All students must be in attendance for the full duration of each day. Where students must leave, a permission to leave request must be submitted on Vs Ware in advance. Students leaving early must speak to Ms. O' Donoghue in the GP Area between 08.25 and 08.40 on the day in question so that the approval can be finalised.
- All absences must be explained through the Vs Ware app. Please ensure notifications are turned on so that you receive e-mails and updates.
- Students who feel unwell during the day must contact the Deputy Principal responsible for their group before going to the office.
- Where books, purchased by the school, are lost or damaged by students, replacements must be purchased by families.
- At the end of each school day, all students waiting to go home must do so in the General Purpose Area on the ground floor.
- Mobile phones/devices must be unseen, unused and unheard in the school building.
- All school fees are logged on VS Ware. Where fees remain outstanding, I ask that you give this your immediate attention. If there are any issues around a payment, please contact me in confidence.
- The November Exams take place between Tuesday, 24 and Friday, 27 November.
- In the lead-in to these exams, two Saturday Study sessions will be offered to students between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm on Saturday, 14 and 21 November. The cost of this will be €10 and Ms. S. Byrne will be in contact with the students on this closer to the time.
- Students will be reminded of the above points through Assemblies and Year Head visits in the coming week or so.

Yours sincerely,

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John Mc Ginnity,
Principal.