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**Education and Families  
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Dear Parent/Carer

Our children have settled back in incredibly well to school life. They are very aware of all the procedures and protocols that are in place and I am super proud of them all and the maturity they are displaying on our return to what is a very **different** way to school life for us all. Our Primary 1 children have been amazing. It is lovely to hear and see the children again and the school being a hive of activity. We have missed our NMPS family incredibly and we are trying our best to get it right.

All the safety protocols are in place to keep us safe, but we must all follow the rules to remain safe and that includes parents/carers also.

The return to school is also a work in progress and we won't get everything correct right away, however we have worked incredibly hard at making sure the return is as safe as possible for our children and staff. Things will change as with COVID19 everything is subject to rapid change. Can I remind you **ALL** that **COVID 19** has not gone it is still very much with us and we are still in a pandemic, therefore we need to ask **ALL** parents/carers to think about when you are dropping off and collecting your child. We would love to have the space available for collecting your child however we don't have the space and will need your help to alleviate any congestion that occurs outside the gate.

**As you know ALL stages return tomorrow Fri 14 August and we have had to make some changes. Therefore, we are going to change the times again the children will be dismissed at home time:**

### **Primary 1 – 3**

The infant children will now be dismissed first. Primary 1 children will be dismissed at 2.45pm now followed by the primary 2 and 3 children at 2.50pm. We cannot stress this enough **YOU MUST GET YOUR CHILD AND GO YOU CANNOT HANG ABOUT. IF YOU ARE ALSO WAITING ON OLDER CHILDREN YOU WILL NEED TO ARRANGE WITH THEM TO PICK THEM UP AT ANOTHER DESIGNATED AREA**, which could be across the road, round at the Church or the grass area beyond the graveyard. If you hang about outside the gate and fence you are causing congestion. **IT MUST BE CLEAR SO WE CAN DISMISS OUR CHILDREN SAFELY AND FOR OUR STAFF TO REMAIN SAFE.** Therefore, until the congestion subsides the staff will wear their masks when at the gate



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dismissing the children as it's difficult to socially distance with very limited space and congestion of adults.

**Primary 4 – 7 children will now be dismissed at 3pm and they will be dismissed a class at a time, starting with P4, then P5, P6 and finally P7.**

A member of staff will be at the carpark access gate to make sure the children cross there safely also. You must work with us on this though, drop your children off in the morning and PLEASE GO don't hang about the fence area, there are plenty of staff in the playgrounds to supervise the children. Hopefully as time goes on we will get into a routine and things will get easier for us all.

Our crossing patrol is also there so it might be a suggestion for our P2 – P3 parents to stand across the road and get your child there, if possible, this would also allow our Primary 1 parent's access to getting their child as P1 will be out first. Fay our crossing patrol will cross the P2 – P3 safely if you stand across the road. If you say to your child to say to their class teacher if that is something you wish to do.

Finally, we have returned to school, yes, however we have returned to a school that is very different and procedures that we follow are also very different and yes things have to be a lot stricter and rigid but that is the way it has to be to protect everyone. We want to make sure we keep all our children and staff safe (we also have families that we must keep safe) and that they remain safe. We as the adults collectively must make sure we follow all the rules and REMEMBER the FACTS!

We continue to live through unprecedented times and probably the most challenging time we might ever find ourselves in. We really do appreciate your patience with this but you have to appreciate also this is a learning curve for us all and a very new way of working. I have spoken previously about building the bridge back to safety and that bridge is most definitely still under construction so please, BE KIND and we look forward to the day we can welcome you all back with open arms.

Stay safe and well

*Mrs Reid*

**Head Teacher (Acting)**