Good afternoon Parents and Guardians

I hope the boys and girls had a good break and are ready for action on Monday morning.

I received a 5 page document outlining for us how we now move on from our Covid restrictions and get back to "normal school" as was before March 12th 2020 - almost two years ago now!

This is welcome news.  It will take some adjusting as we have almost forgotten how we went about our business pre-pandemic.

We will take it slowly and will not be lifting all restrictions at once. We need to see what is good in our new ways and there may be certain things we might like to keep.

I see the next few weeks up to St Patrick's Day as a transition period.

The main four points for Monday and this week are:

1. We continue with our hygiene routines - sanitising, washing hands, respiratory hygiene and ventilation.

2. Pupils and staff stay at home if they have symptoms or have a positive Covid 19 test.  There is no need to fill out 'Return to School Declaration' from Monday 28th

3. Mask wearing is no longer mandatory for pupils or staff, however pupils and staff who wish to continue wearing masks/face coverings can of course do so.

4. Physical distancing - two metres are no longer required.

We have other guidance on 'pods & bubbles', games/sports, singing. school visits, face to face parent teacher meetings, staggered breaks, opening and closing times.

I will be in touch with you again during the week when we, as a staff, have time to discuss all these changes

I quote from the document from the Department of Education: " In general schools should resume normal school routines and normal teaching and learning activities"

We will return to normal service but please give us time to deal with these changes.  The pupils will need time to adapt also.

It is good news and we look forward to the new beginnings.

Finally, I sincerely thank you the parents, the boys and girls and staff for their co -operation and hard work over the past two years. It has not been easy, but we got through it.

Covid-19 is still around and we must be very conscious of keeping it out of Scoil Treasa as well as we can.

Regards

Gerard O' Meara

Principal