**December Circular 2020**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Admissions Policy and Admissions Notice** The new Admissions Policy and Notice which came into effect on 1st October 2020 has been uploaded onto our school website ([www.quayschool.ie](http://www.quayschool.ie)) under the policies tab.

**Enrolment 2021-2022** Places in our Junior Infant classes for September 2021 will be offered next February.

**Mathletics** We are using Mathletics on a trial bases for the next 4 weeks. Your child will have 24 hour access to Mathletics through a unique username and password. This means that students can work at their own pace; anywhere, anytime.

Mathletics is a web-based learning program that integrates home and school learning via the internet. We recommend that you spend time looking at the program with your child so that you can an understanding of how it works. We would appreciate any feedback.

**Santa** As part of our Christmas celebrations we will welcome a special visitorto the school on Thursday 17th December in line with Covid-19 guidelines and protocols. A great way to conclude our first term.

**Quay School Radio** Sixth Class are busy getting ready to hit the airwaves as they prepare to launch “Quay School Radio” in December. This innovative project is a novel way of bringing the school community together in these Covid times. Using the school intercom system the children in sixth class will take turns scripting and presenting a weekly broadcast. These broadcasts will include Good News Friday, Birthday Shoutouts, Covid Safety Reminders, The Quay School Joker and weekly surprises to boot! Well done to all the children in sixth class for the creativity, initiative and leadership shown here as they work together for the good of the whole school community. We eagerly await the inaugural broadcast on Friday Dec 4th.

**Fundraiser** SVP -Christmas Jumper Day- Wednesday 16th December
St Colmcille’s NS has supported Saint Vincent De Paul Charity every Christmas for many years. Unfortunately, our annual Christmas Carol singing cannot be held due to COVID restrictions. Instead this year the pupils will mark our charity appeal by taking part in a “Fun Run” wearing their Christmas Jumpers on Wednesday 16th December 2020.

**Christmas Cards** We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising initiative by purchasing Christmas cards.

**Christmas Class Video** We will post a video link of each class performing a Christmas song or poem towards the end of December.

**Voluntary Contribution** A very sincere thank you to all who have returned class fees and voluntary contributions to date. We are very grateful for your continued support.

**Pupil Personal Accident Insurance Cover** Pupil Insurance (Allianz 24/7) cover for all pupils in St Colmcille’s NS. Please see link for further details <https://www.allianz.ie/pupil-personal-accident/>

**Covid-19** We sincerely appreciate your support and compliance to date with our efforts here in school.

As we mentioned frequently we must continue to …

* remain extremely vigilant and cautious, continue to communicate well with us here in school, and recommend good hygiene and coughing etiquette inside of and outside of our school environment.
* keep your children at home should they feel ill or show any symptoms associated with Covid-19.
* focus on all the basics: handwashing, sanitising, social distancing etc.

Finally, we would ask that you remain familiar with all national directives. In particular, with regard to how and when to restrict your movements if you or someone you live with has C19 SYMPTOMS, is scheduled for a test or is a close contact of a confirmed case of C19.

As always should you have any personal concerns or indeed suggestions as to what we can improve please do not hesitate to get in contact. We have an important role to play in ensuring the safety of all and must continue to take personal responsibility for all our individual interactions and movements.

Once again, I would like to compliment the staff, pupils and parents for their tremendous work, flexibility and co-operation over the last three months and hopefully we will have a safe and enjoyable run into the Christmas period.

Le gach dea ghuí,

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Kevin Munnelly, Principal