

Dundalk Grammar School

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BA, PGCE, MEd, DIPEdM

Deputy Principal: Enda Murphy

BComm International, PDMP, PDE



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DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

22nd December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the Christmas holidays and look forward to the New Year, we reflect on the challenges of the past 10 months and take this opportunity to praise the resilient and courage of our students in coping with this pandemic. What has remained steadfast in DGS is the strong sense of family in helping cope with the heightened fears and worries around Covid-19. The efforts of our students adhering to the school's Covid-19 guidelines is a credit to you.

On Wednesday 16th December, DGS was subject to a Covid-19 Department of Education Inspectorate that reported the school as being highly commended for our efforts in creating an as safe as possible learning environment for the students and staff. The Inspectorate concluded that DGS had gone over and above what was expected from the school. This result would not have been possible without the whole school staff involvement and dedication. Special words of thanks to our cleaning staff, caretakers, Facilities Manager, Medical Officer, Boarding kitchen staff, office staff and teachers.

Each year, the school facilitates a Bereavement Support Programme for students with the purpose to provide participants with a safe and supportive environment in which to talk about their experience of loss and grief. The programme is facilitated by two trained staff members in the school. Details of the programme, including a consent form, can be downloaded from the school website, link on the covering email.

With the start of the Christmas holidays, and whilst our hearts and minds can now turn to family and friends, albeit on a scaled down version, on behalf of all the DGS staff, Mr Murphy and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

School reopens on Wednesday 6th January and I would remind anyone travelling abroad to please follow the HSE and Department of Foreign Affairs guidance on return to Ireland and not to send your son/daughter to school until the appropriate time.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Graham
Headmaster

