

**Holy Faith Secondary School,
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3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we near the end of three weeks of school closure and move into the Easter holidays, it's perhaps fitting to take a break, take stock and reflect on where we are. I am very appreciative of the efforts of students and teacher to adapt and embrace new models of learning that we have had to embrace. It's been a steep learning curve for the entire school community and we are all learning. I am particularly mindful of the many new demands and anxieties parents are dealing with at present not least being the issue of childcare.

I think it would be imperative that everyone, parents, students and teachers, takes a break after the intensity of the last few weeks. Holy week has traditionally been a time to reflect on the meaning of life and death, looking forward to the Resurrection celebrated on Easter Sunday. We all need to draw breath and recharge our batteries, physically, emotionally and spiritually. We are still facing in to uncertain times and while schools remain closed until 19th April, we are not certain when they will reopen.

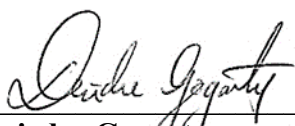
Over the Easter break, revision programmes may be given to exam classes and general tasks, challenges and quizzes set for other students but priority should be given to taking a break from the new working day.

We are all coping with novel circumstances at home and with families close and distant. The challenges of Covid-19 can seem overwhelming at present but we all have something to contribute. The school was able to respond in a particular way with over 40 goggles from our Science labs delivered to St Luke's Radiation Unit in Beaumont Hospital, boxes of gloves to Coolock Garda Station and some hand sanitisers to a church in Cabra.

I wish you all a very happy Easter, enjoy a well earned break and hopefully we will soon be back to functioning in the real as opposed to the virtual world.

Now more than ever, I draw comfort from words you may have heard me use sometimes: "all will be well, and all will be well, and all manner of things will be well" (Julian of Norwich)

Yours sincerely,



**Deirdre Gogarty,
Principal**