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5th February 2021

A Chairde.

At the outset I want to compliment each and every member of the MICC school community and their families for the fantastic efforts being made to engage in remote learning and teaching. Working from home is not easy and with homes vying for devices and broadband it has been amazing to see the levels of engagement across all of our year groups.

I want to sincerely thank the teachers and SNAs for their work in ensuring that learning continues to happen for our students. They have been juggling their own home lives as well as preparing for classes in a way that is completely different to in class preparation.

I want to thank the staff of our School Completion Programme Team for the great work that they do behind the scenes to support so many students and families. The Apleona team continue to maintain and improve our school building and we look forward to returning to our wonderful campus very soon.

We await guidance from the Department of Education in relation to when that can happen. We also await guidance for our Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate students in respect of what format their end of cycle assessments will take. I can assure you that we will support them in every possible way to ensure the best outcomes for each. What I will say is the best way to prepare for whatever destination is mapped out, is to engage in the live classes, to submit assignments and homework and to continue with study plans.

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February has been designated as a catch-up/wellbeing day for all members of MICC. It is a screen free day where staff and students can catch up on work, assignments, etc so that we can all enjoy a clear break for February midterm. It is also an opportunity for everyone to catch up on some reading, some music or even to set up a coffee over Zoom with someone we haven't spoken to in a while. Friday will see a return to live classes, etc and a chance to sign off for the week's break.

Parents I would like to draw your attention to the fact that you can now track your student's engagement in live lessons and submission of work through VSWare. Teachers are inputting attendance on VSWare as they would in the school building. We have also added some comments to the Behaviour tab where teachers can share with you a student's level of engagement. Please do check in on this regularly.

Priomhoide Principal Mr Niall Murphy



I would also ask you to ensure that your son/daughter are checking their @corketb email accounts through Microsoft Outlook. They may need to download that app to their device. Staff are communicating with students through emails but these may be missed if students

are only using their Gmail, iCloud or other accounts. The same log in details for Teams works across all Microsoft Office accounts.

Finally I would like to thank you for your support to us as a school. We have received numerous messages and emails thanking staff for their efforts. These are greatly appreciated and valued. I know this has been a very trying time in many homes in so many ways. If we can be of assistance in any way please email us on miccinfo@corketb.ie

Take care and stay safe and we look forward to times when we can welcome everyone back into school.

Niall Murphy

Principal