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20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians & Students,

On behalf of the board of management and our teaching staff, I would like to send out the strongest possible message of support to all of the families in our school community at this most difficult time.

As always, our students' welfare is at the centre of our concerns and while the means of communication may have changed, our priorities to care for the educational and wellbeing needs of our girls remain the same.

Our students have access to Google classroom and our teachers are communicating on a regular basis with each of their class groups, setting work, sharing resources, giving direction and correcting students' work.

The Guidance Google classroom has wellbeing and mindfulness advice as well as up to date information on third level and UCAS applications. The Loreto College Facebook page and Twitter Account are invaluable links and sources of information for all of us. If any student or parent needs assistance or information that is not readily available, please email info@loretoemullingar.com and the message will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Our government has many serious decisions to make to protect the health of our people, not least regarding upcoming state examinations and the reopening of schools. Not all of these decisions will be ideal or fair, but we must work within different parameters for some time to come. In the grand scale of things, inconvenience, uncertainty and potential delay pales into insignificance compared to the anxiety and worry of the most vulnerable in our community.

I urge you all to continue to adhere to all of the guidelines in place to protect us from this dangerous virus and to remain vigilant and compliant until we are safe.

There are many uncertainties as we travel this uncharted journey as a nation and as global citizens and we will negotiate the obstacles and trials in a spirit of cooperation and care for each other.

In the spirit of our catholic ethos, I pray God's blessing on each and every one of our Loreto family and trust that you and your loved ones will be protected in mind and body during this crisis.

Your sincerely,

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Marése Bell
Principal