**Ballymoney National School,**

**Ballineen,**

**Co. Cork.**

**Phone: 023-8847583**

**24th March 2021**

Dear Parents,

We are coming to the end of an extraordinary term which has been extremely challenging for you as parents. It is wonderful to see the pupils back in school and learning so happily together. We have no reason to believe that the schools will need to close again but their school books will be sent home on Friday as a precaution. A lot can change in two weeks as we all saw last Christmas. The pupils in the junior room will bring their books home in the same plastic box. We would appreciate it if the senior classroom could bring an extra bag with them on Friday to carry their books home.

**School Garden**

The pupils have been busy planting seeds in the polytunnel and outside raised beds. Mrs. Quin found some tadpoles which we are all enjoying observing each day. We will upload some photographs to Seesaw on Friday.

**Board of Management**

The Board of Management met on Monday 15th March. The agreed report is listed below:

* The Bishop has announced that Reverend Ivan will replace Reverend Cliff Jeffers as one of his patron’s nominees on our board of management. We are pleased to welcome him and we extend our thanks to Reverend Cliff Jeffers who served on the board of management while the parish was vacant.
* Permission has been granted to Ms. Hawkins and Mrs. Quin to job share for the 2021-22 school year.
* Three children have been enrolled by September 2021. They are Eli Sutton, Lydia O’Mahony and Eliza Canty.
* The Covid-19 Logistics Policy was updated in line with the Department of Education’s latest advice on re-opening.
* The side fence will be replaced with a similar fence to the one between the parish hall and the school.

**Mural**

The mural is almost complete and it looks wonderful! We are only collecting black, purple and silver bottle tops now. There are thousands of bottle tops attached to it. The pupils have positioned them and glued them in place under the guidance of Mrs. Quin. We hope to put a screw into each one to keep them in place permanently. We would be grateful if any parents could spare an hour to assist us to screw them in place. This would have to be done individually in the hall, after Easter, to ensure social distancing.

**Easter Holidays**

The Easter Holidays begin at 12pm on Friday the 26th March and we will re-open on Monday 12th April. We wish you all a Happy Easter.

Kind regards,

Shireen