



12 February 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

As mid-term begins, I hope you and your families are all keeping well. I wish to thank all the students of Loreto College for their outstanding attendance and diligence regarding their on-line learning since 11th January this year. Our students and teachers are exhausted and all deserve a well-earned rest over the coming break. Our school is closed from today at 4pm, until Tuesday 23rd February. On Monday 22nd February our staff will be attending on-line training with the DES and as a result there will be no classes for students that day.

We are still in very uncertain times regarding the return to the school campus. As of today, no clear guidelines have been issued by the DES. On receipt of any such clarification we will let you know immediately.

Leaving Cert Mock Exams:

With the best interest of our sixth-year students in mind and after serious reflection and consultation with teachers, the following decisions have been made:

- The school will not be holding on-line mock exams.
- The school will not be running 'in school' mock written papers in the week of 22nd February.
- Mock oral exams in all languages will proceed in the week(s) after mid-term (some have already taken place).
- The school is planning for a series of assessments over the next few months. These assessments will be designed to minimise loss of class time and to maximise the exam preparation for students. As we receive clarity from the State Exams Commission, these assessments/exams will be tailored and adapted appropriately.

The students are at the centre of our decision making. We will continue to work hard to complete and revise courses, afford the students exam preparation and practice, minimise the loss of class time and best prepare our students for Leaving Cert 2021 in whatever format that presents itself.

I wish to commend our students who worked consistently this year both in school and online. They should plan some breaks from study in the week ahead and come back to us refreshed on the 23rd February. I hope that we will have more clarity from the DES and the SEC by then.

We would be delighted to meet with you and your daughter(s) at 6pm this evening by zoom to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Time: Feb 12, 2021 06:00 PM Dublin

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84708440645?pwd=dVplWDZFd1Ria2FmaDBKczFSaFpydz09>

Meeting ID: 847 0844 0645

Passcode: mbm8Wu

Thank you to you, the parents for your ongoing support of the school in these very challenging times. We keep all those who are ill or bereaved in our thoughts and prayers. We are looking forward to better times ahead.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Prendiville". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Bernadette Prendiville

Principal