



3/4/2020

Dear Parents / Guardians/ Students

Another Week over. I hope you and your family are well.

We have all had to deal with many challenges in our careers and lives, but this I think is different and the amount of dedication that I am seeing from you as parents and students and from our teaching staff at this time is inspiring.

No training can possibly prepare us to deal with the current issues and challenges that we face. We are in unfamiliar territory. Learned approaches that can tell us which actions are likely to be more effective just don't apply.

As a school we have focused on our students and have continued to do what we should do best and that is to pass on the values, the attitudes, the sense of humanity that helps one generation to take its place after the next.

Students and parents I am sure you are feeling some anxiety and are perhaps directionless by the circumstances which are beyond your control. We all need to respond at this time by setting a tone of calm. We also don't understand all of this and have no magic answers, but in time these things will pass.

Speaking following a meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Covid-19, Leo Varadkar said Minister for Education Joe McHugh and the State Examinations Commission are drawing up options to allow the State exams to be held.

Mr Varadkar said there are a "number of options" and Minister McHugh is working to ensure that "by hook or by crook" the exams take place.

He said the Government did not want people who are hoping to enter third level education later this year "to lose a year ... or half a year" of their lives.

Mr Varadkar also said they were keen to avoid the "problems that would follow" from there not being an entry year into colleges in 2020.

We have to trust in our leaders that they are doing everything they can to make this happen

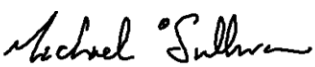
Over the last few weeks clearly and proudly your dedication to your families and to your studies has been impressive, uplifting, and reassuring in these uncertain times. To those of you working in Frontline services we thank you for all that you are doing at this time to keep us safe

As we enter the weeks ahead please look after yourself and your family and thank you for your continued commitment and hard work. Please continue to follow the advice and guidelines as issued.

I wish you a safe and happy Easter from everyone in the Friary

Please contact us if you need anything and please stay safe

Michael O' Sullivan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'S'.