**Knockavoe School and Resource Centre**

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**Principal: Mrs Sharon Cassidy B.A. (Hons), PGCE, PG Dip, PQH (N.I.)**

15th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. It really is hard to believe that it is a year since we were first in lockdown as an initial response to this pandemic. One year on and there has been so many personal stories, experiences, tragedy, loss, success, challenges, highlights, stresses, worries, changes and so on. Each story with its own context and impact on individuals, families and the wider community.

As a school community we have heard many of these experiences and yet we endeavour to dig deep into our hidden resilience and keep going. Routine and structures are good for us all particularly our children who have shown remarkable resilience. Our wellness tools, whatever they may be, are being used more than ever and we are proud of our community.

Our pupils are extremely resilient and as a school we can see some very positive effects of class bubbles with less transition points for children during the school day. Pupils appear to be more settled and content within their bubbles. We recently had our school council meeting online and this was a fantastic event to be part of. Pupils contributed via technology to our very first digital Student Council meeting.

Safety continues to be our highest priority alongside the recovery curriculum. Communication is integral to all that we do in an open and honest way in line with our school values. Our school vision 'reaching for a brighter future' remains as an overarching goal and this is our commitment to you. Although we can’t meet in person please continue to communicate with us. The education of your child is a partnership between home and school and although Covid has interfered with our usual arrangements it is important to find ways of keeping this communication going.

Our website is continually being updated on a daily basis with new resources for remote learning and with daily news. Parentline NI have organised a series of online support sessions and details of these are on the Parent section on the website. I would encourage you to check our website daily at <https://www.knockavoeschool.com/> for details of school events and special photographs and video messages.

Tuesday 16th March is a non-uniform day and pupils are invited to wear green as part of our celebrations for St Patrick’s day. School will be closed on Wednesday 17th and reopen on Thursday 18th March.

Thank you as always for your continued support in helping to make Knockavoe School a safe and secure environment for our pupils to learn.

Kind regards

Sharon Cassidy

Principal

