



**Principal:** Mr Keith Black

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Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent(s),

As we close our school today, I would primarily like to say a huge thank-you to our whole school community; for your efforts in ensuring life at school for our pupils has been as safe and as 'normal' as possible since our restart in September.

The first term at school has definitely been challenging, with both pupils and staff adapting to new learning styles, settings and routines. The staff at school have continued to work hard, in order to ensure that the learning experiences provided to our children are of the highest standard and are suited to the needs of all. I would like to thank all the staff at school for their efforts and hard work thus far.

When I started in Ballytrea P.S. last January, I could never have envisaged what the next 12 months would entail. However, one thing that has not changed in that time, is the support our school and I have received from both parents and families. It is a real privilege to lead our school, and I would like to thank our parents and families for your encouragement and help as we work together to provide a safe and enjoyable learning environment for the pupils.

My biggest thank-you, nevertheless, must go to our children. I am extremely proud of you all! Over the last few months, you have shown resilience, determination and an enthusiasm for learning, and the progress you have all made has been fantastic, despite having many different obstacles thrown in your way. You all deserve a well-earned rest!

Who knows what January will have in store for us, particularly after further restrictions were announced yesterday? I wish to appeal our school community to remain vigilant and to follow the guidelines, set by our Executive. I will endeavour to keep parents informed with any important announcements or updates regarding school.

It just remains for me to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas, and a prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Black  
(Principal)

**\* School reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**