**Our Lady of Victories Girls’ School,**

**Ballymun Road, Dublin 9. Roll No: 18911R**

**Principal:** Lorna Greene **Telephone:** 01 8379833

 **www.olvgns.ie** **Email:** office@olvgns.ie

 8th January 2020

Dear Parents,

 As you are now aware schools will not reopen for pupils as planned on Monday 11th January. Instead we will move to remote learning. I can imagine that the thoughts of that have created anxiety, both with yourselves and your daughters. Please be assured we are well prepared and have a plan in place to deal with such circumstances. School books and copies can be collected from the school on Monday 11th January (see details below) and remote learning will begin on Tuesday 12th January.

**Remote learning:**

* Each morning your daughter will attend a ‘live’ meeting with her class teacher to prepare for the day and answer any queries. Each class grouping will have a different time slot, so sisters using the same device can attend their own meetings.
* Direct daily teaching of English, Irish and Maths via SeeSaw.
* Independent tasks set for other areas of the curriculum.
* Children in receipt of one-to-one learning support and group learning support e.g maths, literacy and nurturing groups in school will receive the same at home.
* Children in receipt of SNA access for non-medical related issues, will receive similar support at home.
* Daily feedback from teachers via SeeSaw.

The details of the above will be discussed and confirmed in a Staff Meeting on Monday morning. Your daughter's class teacher and if applicable, SET teacher, will be in touch via email with full details later that day.

**Book Collection:**

Teachers will be on-site preparing your daughters packs of books and copies on Monday morning. Please ensure they are stored carefully at home- we will need them all returned when we reopen. Any lost or damaged books/copies must be replaced by parents, as we have no funding left for book purchases due to the huge number of families who have yet to pay their book rental fees.

**All adults MUST wear a face covering and maintain a minimum of 2m distance from others while on school grounds.**

Please bring a heavy duty shopping bag to carry the books home, particularly if you have more than one child in the school. Enter via the main pedestrian gate, and follow the directions of staff. I would ask that you don’t delay- simply collect your daughters books and proceed to the nearest exit.

Please ONLY arrive during your allocated time slot below. We have divided the school by surname to reduce the number of people entering the school at one time:

**Surnames A-H: 10.45am-11.15am**

**Surnames I-O: 11.15am- 11.45am**

**Surnames P-Z: 11.45am-12.15pm**

 I, like many of you, am very anxious about the level of Covid19 in the country and the threat it poses to our healthcare system. I am considered ‘high risk’ as are many of the staff and students in the school. It is due to the collective efforts of everyone in the OLV community, that we managed to deal so well with the challenges we faced up to now. I am emploring with you all to redouble your efforts to keep everyone in the OLV community safe over the next few weeks and months. I know your daughters will miss their family and friends terribly, but please stay at home, and only make essential trips to shops/chemists etc.

 Myself and the staff want nothing more than to reopen the school. Believe me when I say the delivery of remote learning is an extremely stressful time for us too. However, it is very important that we only do so when we feel confident it is a safe place for us all. To do this we must work together. As the school motto says *Ní neart go cur le chéile*, there is no strength without unity.

 We look forward to welcoming all our wonderful students back through the doors of the school, when the days are getting a little longer and spring is in the air.

 Kind regards,

 Lorna Greene

 School Principal