

22nd June 2020

Dear girls, parents and guardians,

I hope this letter finds you all well and happy.

I hope you had a good Active Week last week and that you tried out some of



the exercises your teachers suggested.

This week we will be having our Home Sport's Day. Maybe you came up with your own games and activities? Is there a new wheel barrow racing champion in Birr? Or maybe you have discovered football skills you didn't know you had?

Whatever the activity, well done on having a go... it is all about the taking part and getting moving... (although I am very proud of the fact that I came

second in the egg and spoon race in my family!)



I will be looking forward to seeing your pictures!

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of term and the end of the school year. Didn't it all just fly? It has, we will all agree, been a very unusual and difficult year for everyone.

I would like to thank you for working so hard with me and with your teacher over the past year and, in particular, from your home in the past three months. Distance learning, learning from our own homes, was new to all of us back in March. Look how good we all got at it! Before long, you were reading, writing, drawing, baking and doing loads of really cool stuff at home. I loved receiving your work, your news and your photos....from those of you who contacted me every day to those of you who checked in every now and then... I am so grateful to you all. I looked forward to your emails every day and on

more than one occasion I was tempted to get in my car and drive to Birr to taste pancakes or buns or something equally delicious that I saw in your pictures!!

It has been a joy for me to work with you and your parents during the past months. I thank you for engaging so much with me and the work I set. I also thank your parents because, without their help, the distant learning could not have happened. I feel I have got to know lovely mummies through the emails and I look forward to meeting you in person in the new school year.



Finally, a word to our fabulous 6th class girls who are leaving for pastures new....

It has been a pleasure to have had all you girls in Mercy Primary and we will miss you as you venture off. The place won't be the same without you. We go back a long way girls, since you were in my First Class, right up through 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th class when I would pop in for literacy or numeracy activities. You are a credit to your families and your school and we couldn't be more proud of you. You are a lovely bunch of girls and have grown so much as individuals since you started school in Junior Infants. The world is your oyster so go out, chase those dreams and make the most of it. Make good choices in life and good things will happen for you.

I will leave you with this old Irish blessing:



*May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
May the rains fall softly on your fields*

*And until we meet again
May God keep you safe in the palm of his hand*



Le gach dea ghúí, with every best wish,

Ms Dermody

**(I will be in contact individually with those of you who were in my 6th class
English and Maths groups later on this week.)**