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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As we approach the Easter break, I would just like to thank the entire school community for their cooperation, solidarity and goodwill. The past three and a half weeks have presented huge challenges for us all. As a school, our main challenge is to try to create and maintain a viable and realistic 'Distance Learning' programme in an extremely short amount of time. Our aim is to provide stimulating tasks/activities for your child in order for them to continue their education in a 'normal' environment. However, we all know that the current situation in which we find ourselves is anything but 'normal'. We appreciate the support and positive feedback from parents and guardians and reiterate the message from last week. **Do what you can!**

We realise that 'Distance Learning' can be difficult. Balancing schoolwork, your own job, the role of being a parent, son, daughter, friend to those in need and coping with the current situation can seem overwhelming. Please remember the message from last week; this work is a guide and does not have to be completed. **Do what you can!**

Each child has different strengths and abilities. Each home has varying broadband speeds, available devices etc. Each person has different levels of patience! Contact your child's teacher if you require support. We are here to help. **Do what you can!**

As I write this note, we are coming to terms with further restrictions on our movements. Many of us are far from our own parents, siblings, grandparents and some of our older children. It is a difficult time for us all and a balance needs to be maintained. **Do what you can!**

We realise that many of you may be frontline workers. We thank you for all your bravery and look forward to the day when this war with a 'silent enemy' is won. Thank you to all those who are following the advice given regarding 'hand washing', 'social distancing' and 'cocooning' and I ask that we all remain disciplined even when the curve starts to flatten. **Do what you can!**

I look forward to the day when normality returns and we will all be able to enjoy the simple things again. We cannot wait to see all the boys and girls again, being back in school together and catching up. If we can help in any way please contact us at [office@rushnationalschool.ie](mailto:office@rushnationalschool.ie), [nmcelligott@rushnationalschool.ie](mailto:nmcelligott@rushnationalschool.ie) or [mdoran@rushnationalschool.ie](mailto:mdoran@rushnationalschool.ie).

\*We recommend that the boys and girls, and parents, try to have as 'normal' an Easter break as possible and we will not set any new work for this period.\*

Kind regards and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Morgan Doran'.