



St. Malachy's College  
36 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AE



7 January 2021

Dear KS3 Students, Parents/Carers,

This week marks the beginning of Term 2 and the start of a period of remote learning for us all.

Parents/Carers, I want to thank you for everything you have done so far to support the boys' progress during this academic year. From our previous experience of remote learning I am conscious that overseeing the work of the boys at home whilst also fulfilling your own work and wider family commitments, can present challenges. I would ask for your continued support, as far as is reasonable and manageable, in encouraging the boys to regularly engage with their academic work during this period of remote learning. I would ask that you read the contents of this letter through with your son and reflect with him on how best he can implement the guidance provided in the accompanying pupil help sheet to allow him to adopt a structured approach to his learning, continue to make positive progress and be happy in his work.

Boys, your subject teachers will now commence setting you work and communicating with you via Google Classroom. I am aware that the vast majority of you have been working very hard during Term 1 and that you will have built up a wealth of experience in making effective use of Google Classroom to engage positively with your school work.

However, I now require you to take greater responsibility for your learning and how you make use of your individual subject Google Classrooms. It is very important that you keep in regular contact with your subject teachers, completing tasks and submitting specific work as directed by your teachers. To assist you in planning for the responsibility of regularly engaging with your learning during this period I have attached a help sheet. Please read all the points on the help sheet carefully and ensure you follow the guidance provided. I am confident you will rise to this challenge, giving of your best to ensure that you continue to learn and make progress in your various subject areas during this period of working from home.

Boys, just as I asked of you back in April last year and now ask of our new Year 8 Malachians as well, it is very important that each of you receive the advice and guidance from Parents/Carers/Teachers calmly and please always try to remember the kind intentions everyone has as they ask you to keep focussed and progress with your academic work during the coming weeks. Please ensure that you practise a good balance of work, rest, exercise, healthy eating and being as helpful as you can to others at home. Remember, all we expect from you during this period is for you to do your best when completing the work being set and if you are doing that I want you to feel relaxed, confident and proud of your ongoing progress.

If any pupil has any questions about the work being set in the various subject Google Classrooms, please contact your teacher directly via your subject Google Classrooms. A list of staff emails is also available on the College website.

If Parents/Carers have any pastoral concerns during this period of remote learning, your son's Class Tutor, Head of Year and myself remain available to provide assistance.

I end by thanking you all for your continued support for the life and work of the College. I very much hope this period of remote learning is for a limited time and that we can soon welcome the boys back to the College.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Mr C Heaney  
Head of Junior School

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Principal: Mr Paul McBride MA, MEd, B.Mus, PGCE, PQH (NI)

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