

8/10/20

The issue of heavy school bags was brought to the attention of the College. This has become an issue as a result of changes we have had to make in the school as a result of COVID 19. Based on advice from the HSE students are unable to use lockers in the current situation.

The meeting was attended by the principal, deputy principals, year heads members of the parent's council and members of the student's council.

Those present decided it would be in the best interests of student if they were allowed take plastic boxes into school to store their books, taking account of the following:

- The box will be of an appropriate size (35 – 40L)
- Students will supply their own boxes
- Books will be stored tidily in the boxes at all times
- Boxes will be placed on top of the student's desk at the end of the school day, to assist in the quest to keep cleaning staff safe.
- The school will not accept responsibility for any damage to, or loss of books

Teachers will continue to present work to students in a manner that will limit the requirement of books. Work will be presented, where possible using visualizers, through google classrooms etc. Students may use e-books at home, thus reducing the need to carry books back and forth to and from school. If students are finding the paper books too much of a challenge, they may, with their year heads permission use a lap top computer with e-books uploaded.

As the country is at phase 3 in the war against COVID 19, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your vigilance to date and remind you of the following:

- Don't send your son to school if he has any symptoms of coronavirus
- Follow HSE guidelines in relation to suspected cases
- Encourage your son to comply with best practise in relation to physical distancing, hand washing, sanitisation, coughing etiquette
- In school insist that your son follows the advice given by those on supervision, encourage him to stay in his designated area, move around the school in accordance with the directional arrows on the floors and stairs and remain in his designated place in his designated classroom.
- Please ensure your son has three masks per day that fit correctly.

With your help and the excellent efforts of staff and students we have remained COVID free to date. Congratulations to everyone involved in this effort and thank you all for your continued cooperation and efforts in keeping De La Salle a safe place to be in school.

Mick Walsh.