

Goodbye & Good Luck

A sad farewell to our P7 pupils - Class of 2020

To all our P7 boys and girls,

If these were normal times, we would have been celebrating your annual P7 Leavers Assembly and End of Year Mass with the whole school community. Unfortunately, this will not happen this year and it is so disappointing that we are not celebrating your final days at Ballylifford, reminiscing on your seven wonderful years and recognising your remarkable achievements.

These occasions can often be sad and emotional for you, your parents and family members; however, they are a time for joy and celebration as we reflect on your primary school journey and also to look towards the journey you are about to embark upon as you move onto your new schools. These schools can count themselves very lucky to be getting such talented, caring, kind and wonderful children.

Throughout your entire time at Ballylifford, you have always been kind, welcoming, caring and willing pupils displaying our school values and motto at all times. At every opportunity, you have made an impression on everyone with your positive attitudes, leadership qualities and wonderful sense of fun. You are a credit to yourselves, your families and the whole school community. We are extremely proud of you all.

I would like to thank you all for completing your favourite memories task. I really enjoyed reading all your memories at Ballylifford. I hope you enjoy the cherished memories booklet we have put together along with the other gifts.

Hopefully in the near future when it is safe to do so, we will get the opportunity to celebrate your time at Ballylifford properly and in a meaningful way. You will also get presented with your leavers tops which you designed as a group prior to lockdown. We know how excited you will be to receive them and wear them with pride.

My thoughts are also with your parents at this time as they have been denied the opportunity to walk with you for the very last time as you end your Primary School journey. I would like you to reflect fondly with your parents on all the positive experiences and memories you have had throughout your time at Ballylifford. Laugh about the things you used to collect on your Autumn walks, the games you played, the paintings you created, the stories you told. Reminisce about your sports days and carol services, the readings, music and songs you performed at school events. I would encourage all the parents to take the opportunity today to tell your precious children how proud you are of them, how much you love them and how excited you are to see them grow. Remember how you held their little hand on their first day starting P1 and as you hold their hand again today, look back fondly at their time at Ballylifford. You've done a great job and you can now look forward to a new chapter in their lives.

On behalf of all the staff at Ballylifford PS, we thank you all for being fantastic ambassadors and great role models for our school. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to you our wonderful P7 pupils. We wish you every success, joy and happiness as you begin a new chapter in your lives. Use all your qualities and values to help you embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead. Please always remember our door will always be open and you will welcome back to Ballylifford any time.

We will miss you all very much. Take care and stay safe!

Mr McElroy and all the staff at Ballylifford PS.