

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL KILLORGLIN



A message from Intermediate School Principal Joe O'Dwyer.

I would like to wish all our 2020 Leaving Cert students success in their future paths. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all - from the moment you stepped inside our doors to today's unprecedented times.

You are a fine group of students and we are confident you will overcome any obstacles in your way. Although this is a time of uncertainty and clear details might be at a premium, every effort is being made to ensure that all your work will be fully recognised in the revised Leaving Certificate.

Take confidence that you have the support of all our staff in the paths you take and the decisions you make.

While you may not have been physically on campus, we are proud of the work you have tirelessly engaged in through tough times. Your teachers are so impressed by the effort exerted and the engagement and diligence shown during Covid times.

Indeed, while I'm proud of our students, I'm equally humbled by the effort, ingenuity and adaptability displayed by my teaching staff. Unparalleled times call for new thinking and, as a staff, I venture to suggest that we have risen to the challenge and are much stronger for it. From the school family to the family unit, support from the home has been the essential ingredient and we are thankful for the support of parents.

Step forth, rise to the challenges and learn from a journey that is like no other - after all, the road less travelled is a much more exciting one. Thank you for showing just how a generation can adapt,

Joe O'Dwyer

From the ISK teachers to our 'lockdown graduates'...

Dear class of 2020,

Let me begin by saying, on behalf of all teachers everywhere, how sorry we are. Through no fault of your own, you have been cut off from your friends, your extended families and your school, and, for that we are sorry.

We are also sorry we are physically cut off from each other. The final weeks and months in a graduate's school life are full of stress, work and worries, but they are also full of energy, laughter and companionship. You have missed out on your last goodbyes to school, teachers and classmates, and you face uncertainty ahead.

We wish it were otherwise.

In case you think this letter is morbid and full of gloom, it really is not.

When we think of your class, the Lockdown Graduates of 2020, we smile. You have endured and adapted. You have shown resilience and empathy amid these unprecedented times. It has been an eye-opener and a real education for us as teachers, watching you adapt to on-line learning. Zoom, Teams, Google; these have become our textbooks and you have shared, pinned, uploaded, downloaded and joined with us in trying to learn, hoping to succeed.

We wish you all the things Covid-19 has denied you; companionship, freedom and the opportunity to walk the well-trodden paths of the graduates before you. Don't think you mean less to us because you didn't graduate like students in other years, in many ways you mean so much more.

So, forge on, head high, embrace whatever future lies before you.

The lockdown graduate will not be imprisoned by fate, you have adapted, empowered each other and ploughed on in difficult times. We look forward to learning of your future successes, no-one can say you have been boring thus far!!

With best wishes and fondest memories,
The teachers of The Intermediate School Killorglin.

