



St. Joseph's Grammar School

Scoil Ghramadaí Naomh Iósaef

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St Joseph's Grammar School

Fundraising for our Southern Health and Social Care Trust and local St Vincent de Paul Charity.

2nd April 2020

Dear Families of St Joseph's/Scoil Iósaef

The parents and wider community of St Joseph's Grammar School have a long history of donating generously to many commendable causes over the years. We want to tap into that generosity again at this time to raise funds for two worthy causes – for the staff who are working in our local hospitals in the Southern Trust and our local SVP branch which supports people experiencing food poverty and financial hardship.

We know many of you would like to provide practical support to others at this time and we are aware that a special fund has been created in the Southern Trust to administer charitable monies across our four Southern Trust Hospitals – South Tyrone Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital, Lurgan Hospital and Daisy Hill Hospital. We are also keenly aware of the many vulnerable elderly people and families in our local area who are already under financial pressure and who will be feeling the effects of this current crisis deeply.

To help address the need in our own local area, we are launching a fund-raising drive over the next few weeks through our school community and we are calling on our families and friends to join in and donate as much or as little as you want to.

We are starting our fundraising activities this weekend with a ***Socially Distanced Coffee Morning***. We are asking our families and friends to have a coffee morning in their own homes with your own close family members and if you wish, you can send us a picture of your coffee morning through our school Facebook by Private Message. We will upload your photos to show solidarity with our local NHS staff and SVP volunteers. We would ask that you then donate an amount to the dedicated school account, either by cheque or electronically, and electronic details of this account will go live tomorrow evening. All donations will be confidential and fully audited by DE appointed auditors.

The monies will be transferred daily to the two organisations so that it makes an immediate impact on the ground. We will publish a tally of the totals raised each week to keep you fully informed of how the fund raising is progressing.

Our ***Socially Distanced Coffee Morning*** this weekend will be the first of several activities that we will arrange over the next few weeks and we would welcome any ideas you may have for fundraising which we could promote across our school community.

There has probably never been a more important Lenten Season than this to act on the call to undertake acts of faith, hope and especially charity.

As a school, we know how generous our parents and supporters have been in assisting our fundraising efforts in the past so we hope that you will share the invitation to have your own ***Socially Distanced Coffee Morning*** this weekend with your extended family and friendship group so that we can get our fundraising off to a mighty start.

In Hoc Signo Vincas

Mrs Geraldine Donnelly

Principal