

MAYO, SLIGO AND LEITRIM EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Drumshanbo Vocational School

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December 20th 2021

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)

Firstly we want to thank you all for your co-operation as we reach the end of this challenging first term of 2021/22. Our students have been excellent overall in coping with the restrictions imposed due to the pandemic and we have been doing as much as we can within those restrictions to keep school life as normal. You will be aware that one of the biggest challenges for us, as in all schools, this year was in finding substitute teachers whenever needed. We thank you for your understanding in that regard.

We want to update you on the following matters:

Parent / Teacher Meetings : Unfortunately we are still prohibited from holding in-person parent / teacher meetings and this restriction looks set to continue into the next term. We are planning to trial a virtual parent/teacher meeting early in January, starting with Transition Year and rolling those meetings out to other years in the following weeks. You will receive further information on this in January.

Mock Exams : These exams for Third & Sixth Years are scheduled to go ahead starting on February 9th. A link to way2pay will be sent in January.

Christmas Reports : All Christmas Assessments have now been completed and you the reports will be published to you on vsware after the Christmas.

In order to view and download your school reports, carry out the following steps:

- 1. Log in to drumshanbovs.vsware.ie using your username & password .You can find a shortcut to this on our web-site – www.dvs.ie*
- 2. Click on “Term Reports” and then click on “Actions” that appears in the top right of your screen.*
- 3. Select the relevant report and click “Print”*

4. The report should be downloaded and can now be printed off.

All your school reports will be stored on Vsware and available for you to view or download at any time.

School Services Support Fund / Book Rental : We gratefully acknowledge that the vast majority have now paid in full, using way2pay. Payment by instalments can be facilitated easily using this method. If anyone has difficulty accessing way2pay, please contact the school or e mail siobhanevans@msletb.ie.

Transition Year : The first year of TY has been a great success so far, despite the limitations imposed due to the pandemic. Enrolment for TY '22/'23 will take place in April and we will have an information meeting for parents beforehand. This will take place around the same time as the subject options meetings for students going in to Second Year and Fifth Year.

Attendance & Punctuality : Most students have very good records of attendance & punctuality. Obviously, students will have reason to be absent from time to time. It is important that parents notify the school of reasons for absences so that an accurate record can be kept. The best way to do this is using the vsware app. Alternatively the Year Head can be notified by regular e-mail or by vs-mail (on vsware). If none of these methods suit, a note can be sent in the School Journal.

First Year Enrolment 2022/23

Our Open/Enrolment evening normally takes place in February. Arrangements for the coming year will be finalised in January when any restrictions are clarified. Details will then be published in local media and on our school web-site.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy Christmas. We are also very conscious of the many of you that have lost loved ones during the year and are bereaved at this time.

Yours sincerely



Martin Fallon



Siobhán Evans