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Grammar School James Street Omagh BT78 1DL

Principal: Mrs Gráinne T. O'Hanlon B.Ed., M.Ed., P.Q.H.

20th March 2020

Dear "Loreto girls"

We know this is a strange time for you.

In school at Keys stage 3 you were full of energy, fun, enthusiasm and ideas.

In Key stage 4 you were earnestly working for your GCSEs, with great humour and a sense of adventure. In Post 16 you were "students of consequence", ladies with a purpose to pin down that career, nail those qualifications and gravitate towards the door — all in the nicest possible way. You gave so much to the school this year. We could not have asked for better role-models.

School life was exciting....culminating in the visit of Sr Orla Treacy, our inspirational, International Woman of Courage, who set the place alight with her heartfelt stories from Sudan and the joy we were helping to bring to a place of destitution. We were planning our big fundraising night for her with a Concert like no other.

And then everything stopped suddenly.

You were not in the classrooms sitting before us. We didn't get to finish the way we started or the way you or we would have wanted. Something bigger than all of us, Covid19, forced a change we really didn't anticipate.

But "School" isn't over. It is virtual and futuristic. Now that we are launched online we are still Loreto "Doing good and doing it well," and here for you.

Keep working. Use study now as your distraction and motivate yourselves on this independent journey, Stay strong. Allow the GCSEs and A Levels time to work out. We know your capabilities and your dreams.

Respect this time because it is life-changing. Show kindness, compassion and gratitude at home and to others

Be responsible. Wash your hands, keep your social distance and continue to follow all the PHA advice given.

We look forward to your smiles, your laughter and your noise as one day very soon we too will run to school on a Monday morning.

God bless

Mrs O'Hanlon and staff.

