



21 December 2020

Dear Chairperson

I am writing to say a sincere thank you to you and to the members of the board of management for your enormous contribution to our schools, every year, but in particular this year.

The incredible effort and time which you devote to ensure the safe running of our schools has never been more evident than in 2020.

I know that this year you have faced unprecedented challenges, difficult decisions and sleepless nights. The work of school communities has been extraordinary in rising to meet these challenges, and I am grateful to you all for your immense voluntary effort.

To date the evidence demonstrates that schools are operating safely, and this is a testament to your work, and the work of the whole school community.

My officials and I have worked with the school management bodies, unions, parents, and students to find solutions to the many challenges we have faced.

I thank you for your ongoing work and commitment. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families and communities a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Nollaig shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Norma Foley TD  
Minister for Education