** ***Glór na Mara Primary School***

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**ATTENDANCE**

Dear Parents/Guardians, 07/09/2023

I hope you and your families are all well.

In recent times, we have noticed a worrying increase in the number of children who are missing school on a regular basis. This includes lateness as well as early leaving. This is of major concern to us as I’m sure it is to you. A child’s frequent absence from school is likely to have a negative impact on his/her progress, both academically and socially.

We do realise that there are some children who miss school due to ongoing and chronic illness. However, this is not always the case and it is an issue that needs to be addressed for the well-being of the children in question. We are hoping to encourage all children to attend school on a daily basis unless they are ill.

As part of our ongoing attendance strategy and in order to support you, the parents and guardians, we are hoping to implement the following:

* once your child has been absent for 10 days or more you will receive a text reminder from the school
* once your child has been absent for 15 days there will be a second text reminder and/or contact from myself
* once your child has missed 20 days the school is legally obliged to report this to TUSLA (Child and Family Agency)

As the year progresses we will be holding regular meetings with parents to offer support and encouragement, so that we may be enabled to work together to give your children the best possible chance of meeting their educational needs.

We look forward to your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

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Pat O’ Mahoney

Principal