HERITAGE
International School

THE INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE HERALD

September 4, 2020

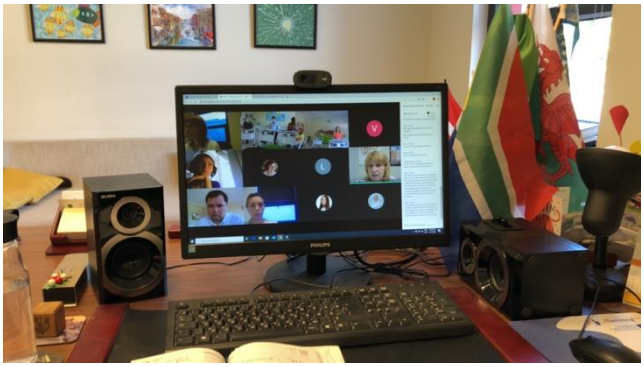
GENERAL

Director's weekly notes- "The View from Dacia Boulevard"

" You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending " CS Lewis

It is hard to think sitting here watching children being collected by their parents on this hot day at the start of September that we would ever get to this point where our school community would be able to physically return safely. The emotion and exhaustion of this week has made all of us long for this first weekend so we can reflect on another remarkable week in the life of Heritage International School. We have spent all summer, since March, working a way back to physical school and trying to see where the never ending relentless omnipresence of Covid19 would impact even further on our daily lives. All summer we spoke at so many global conferences about the success of our Distance Learning Plan and the resilience, dedication and sheer drive of our school community here in Moldova. For the last two weeks in August, colleagues came back, nervously, but we got on with the business of welcoming new and old faces, even with the masks on, and started in earnest going through the training, new priorities and measures as we laid out what we wanted to

achieve in our education this coming year. On Tuesday 1st, we entered our next normal and started to get into the habit and practice of families not coming through the gates, students & staff wearing masks, washing hands regularly, keeping physical distance, and the emotion was more relief to be at this point than the excitement of a new school year. We couldn't hold a special ceremony to welcome back our school community but being Heritage we innovated. Students walked into the central courtyard to be greeted by a giant rainbow of hope archway made by brilliant local artist, Andreea Dorin, creator of the beautiful mural of hope of the side of the Oak centre. And not a plastic balloon in sight as we live by our school's commitment to the UNDP's SDGs and Andreea used recyclable cardboard. Students walked through the arch and a huge thanks to 4B parent Mrs Olga Tserulnik, photographing the day for families watching live on their phones on Dacia Blvd as we welcomed students back to class, in class and we rang the Heritage bell to open the new academic year. Wonderful to see our new School Starter students join us and a huge Heritage welcome to all our new students and our old ones. We are so glad to have you back and those online in isolation at home

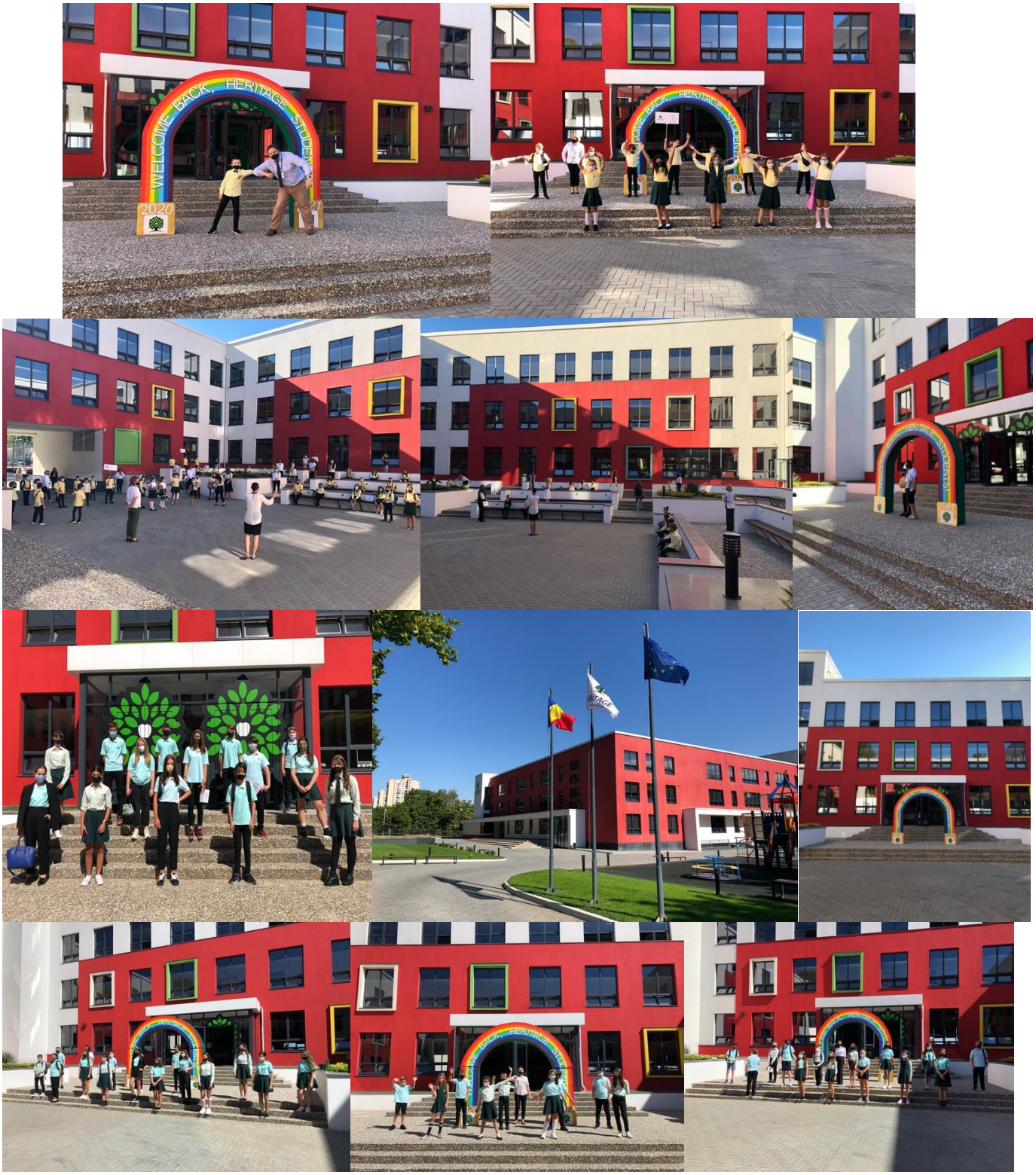


There is a lot for us to get our heads around in this crisis and when I wrote to families on the eve of the new academic year, I asked everyone for their respect and patience as we enter this next normal and issues will come up inevitably as we navigate the next stage of this crisis successfully. As a community, we have demonstrated our strength and courage in finding solutions even in the most challenging of times. Covid19 hasn't relented in Moldova. Case numbers have gone up and the threat of a stricter lockdown remains. As successful as our DLP was, we know our students need to be together in safe physical school and we can make this work. But all of us have to play our part, inside and outside of school. Lots of cliches this summer in the crisis, but I agree with this one, we all crew in this crisis and not passengers. It is in cumbunent on all of us, as our pledge to return states, to make sure this works and we practice #HandsFaceSpace

We have an exciting fourth year ahead and as we expand, see our reputation and profile as an outstanding international school here in Moldova continue to grow, and we are proud to see our work with Cambridge International deepen as we are pilot school for their primary programme and we worked with their head of Europe and qualifications over the summer. Our second series of Founders' Lectures will get underway this month with H.E. Steven Fisher, the UK Ambassador, start this incredible new lecture series that honours the Founders' vision for education at Heritage. As a UK citizen I am very curious to hear what he says about the future of the UK post Brexit. Looks like 2021 could be as eventful as 2020 here for my country. We are now a member of the Global School Alliance, which sounds as if it should be in Star Wars but it is a wonderful network of schools around the World doing great things in international education collaboratively. We begin our official journey into becoming a COBIS school and already in this crisis our international partner networks of COBIS schools in the Black Sea region have supported us in 2020. Our IGCSE students face their first Cambridge exams and our Lyceum is established. Our social responsibility continues as we partner the AREAL animal welfare centre and local orphanages here in Botanica. Our colleagues have a number of global conferences and events lined up with Etwinning, TED, British Council, America House and World EduWeek, where we continue to showcase our school, Moldova and the best of global education.

To return to author CS Lewis's quote at the start, this is the beginning of September, since the start of March, we got our school through the worst education crisis in modern times, and we didn't lose any learning, we in fact developed even better learning as we all adapted. Now, we are back and we start our new academic year from now, physically back in school and supporting those in isolation at home. We want the hope for this year to be as bright as our rainbow arch on the 1st September and the promise of even better days ahead for our students and all of us in our Heritage and wider communities. We can do this, we are Heritage.

Rob Ford



A Note from Ms Elize

It is hard to believe that the day we have so eagerly anticipated has come and passed. Together, as a community, Heritage has succeeded in returning to school safely!

It has been different from previous years, but we still maintained our strong sense of community and tradition. In years to come we will look back at this experience with a sense of pride and achievement. It truly was amazing to see all the smiling faces and hear the hustle and bustle in the hallways once again. This is definitely going to be a year filled with amazing learning, growth and adventure!

I would like to make use of this opportunity to bring a few points under your attention:

1. *Please ensure that you use the assigned drop off and pick up points. This will ease the lines and congestion, which will help with conducting the safety measures needed to ensure we maintain a safe and healthy school environment.*
2. *Where possible please follow the guidelines of mask wearing, hand washing and social distancing when out and about. At school, students are doing a great job, following these guidelines.*
3. *Regarding uniforms, I understand that there is limited stock available, but please do your best to get the appropriate uniform in place. Please stay with the school colours (yellow and green) and refrain from wearing normal clothing.*
4. *If you have any business with the administration or need to visit the uniform shop please make sure that you make an appointment and use the designated entrance.*

Thank you very much to all our families for the great support and assistance you have given us and are still giving. We appreciate your involvement. Together we can show the children that we can face challenges and adversity head on and succeed. However, as exciting as going back to school can be, it also comes with a sense of uncertainty and fear. As a parent myself, I know how important it is to support our children and assist them in navigating this new and extraordinary school year. Here is an article I found very useful:

How parents can prepare their children for going back to school

After a very busy and somewhat emotional week I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing weekend!

"There are no great people in this world, only great challenges which ordinary people rise to meet."
William Frederick Halsey Jr

Kind regards,
Ms Elize.

News from Heritage:

- Heritage International School is accessing new opportunities. This is the first educational institution in Moldova that has joined the ***Global School Alliance*** *international community. The project brings together on the same platform over 180 active members from 50 countries around the world, who aim to transform education globally - https://www.heritage.md/en/news/heritage-global-school-alliance/*

- Heritage's new mural of hope on our oak centre for the new academic year
https://www.heritage.md/en/news/heritage-new-mural/

- We have been featured in the prestigious International Times Educational Supplement (TES) as director Rob Ford wrote about our induction day with a difference for our new international staff:
https://www.tes.com/news/how-to-welcome-new-staff-international-school-team-building

Welcome to our new colleagues joining Heritage:
Mrs Diana Pulbere - Family Liaison Officer
Mr.Igor Coșcodan - IT Manager
Mr.Graur Adrian- Music Teacher
Ms.Truşcealova Anna - Teacher assistant/ English Language Teacher
Mr.Chioseian Samvăl - PE Teacher
Ms.Gorbaciova Nina - Russian Language Teacher
Mr.Frans Brewis - Science Teacher
Ms.Marna Greyling - Science Teacher
Ms.Ursache Iulia- Teacher assistant/ English Language Teacher
Mrs Consuela Johnson - Math Teacher
Mr Graham Robertson - English Teacher

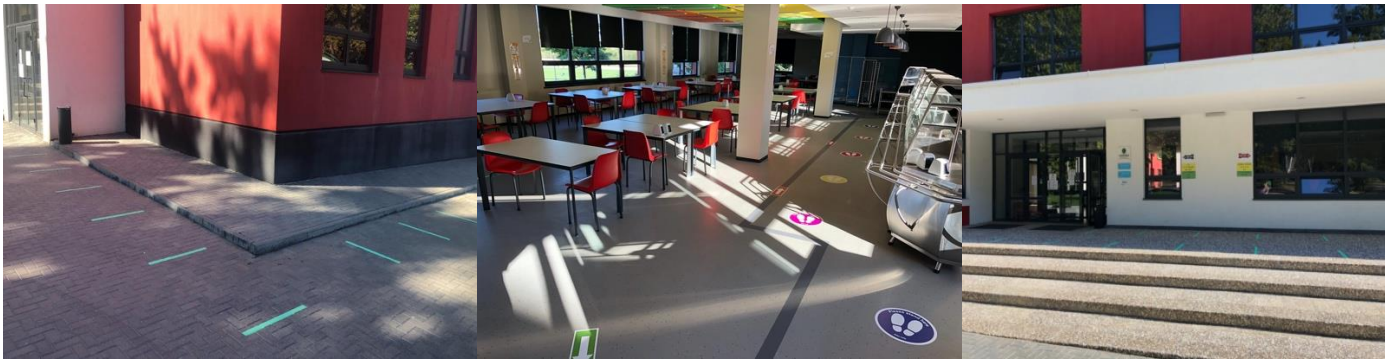
Mr Christopher Lux - English Teacher
Mr Foman de la Cruz - Math/Science Teacher
Ms. Liliana Dugneanu-English teacher
Ms. Natalia Carstea-English/Romanian Teacher

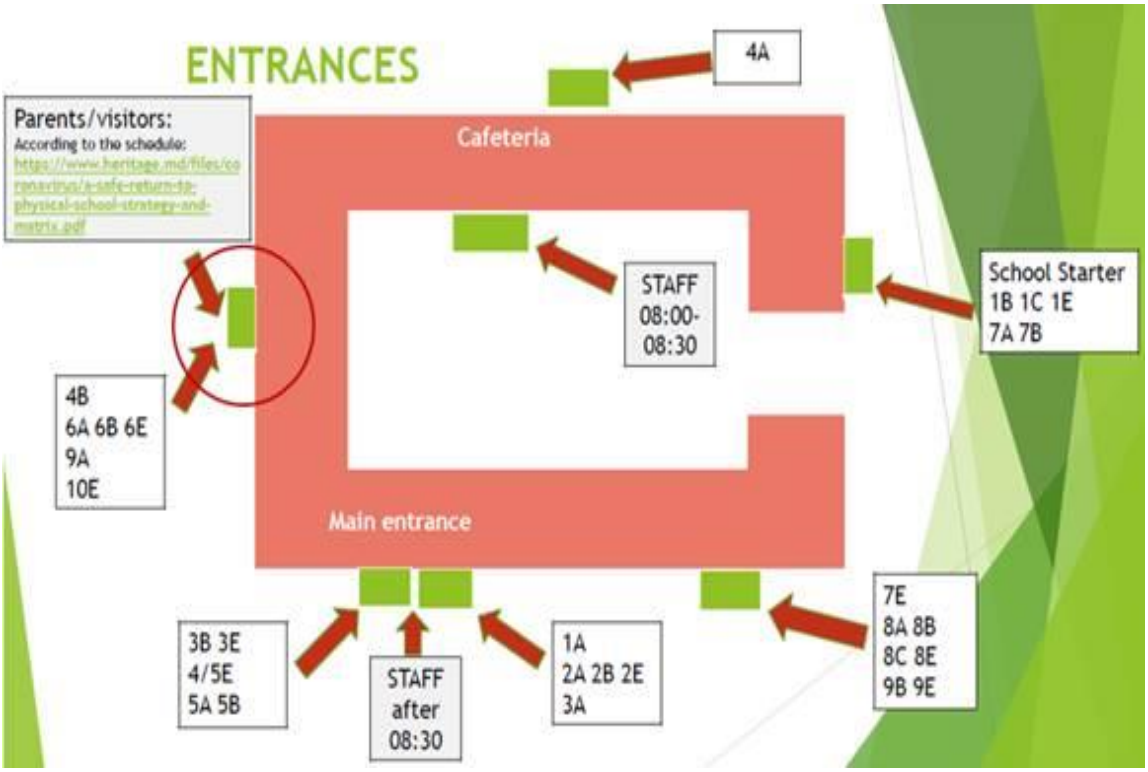
School priorities for 2020-2021

School leadership structure - *https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nUF0LqH7UQ5Lb4xruiqphWcBj7D9Wxp1Nb65m5Ry0Rc/edit#*

How we make sure #EducationBeatsCovid19:

THE "RETURN TO SCHOOL" PLEDGE OF THE HERITAGE COMMUNITY
- HTTPS://WWW.HERITAGE.MD/EN/NEWS/RETURN-TO-SCHOOL-PLEDGE/



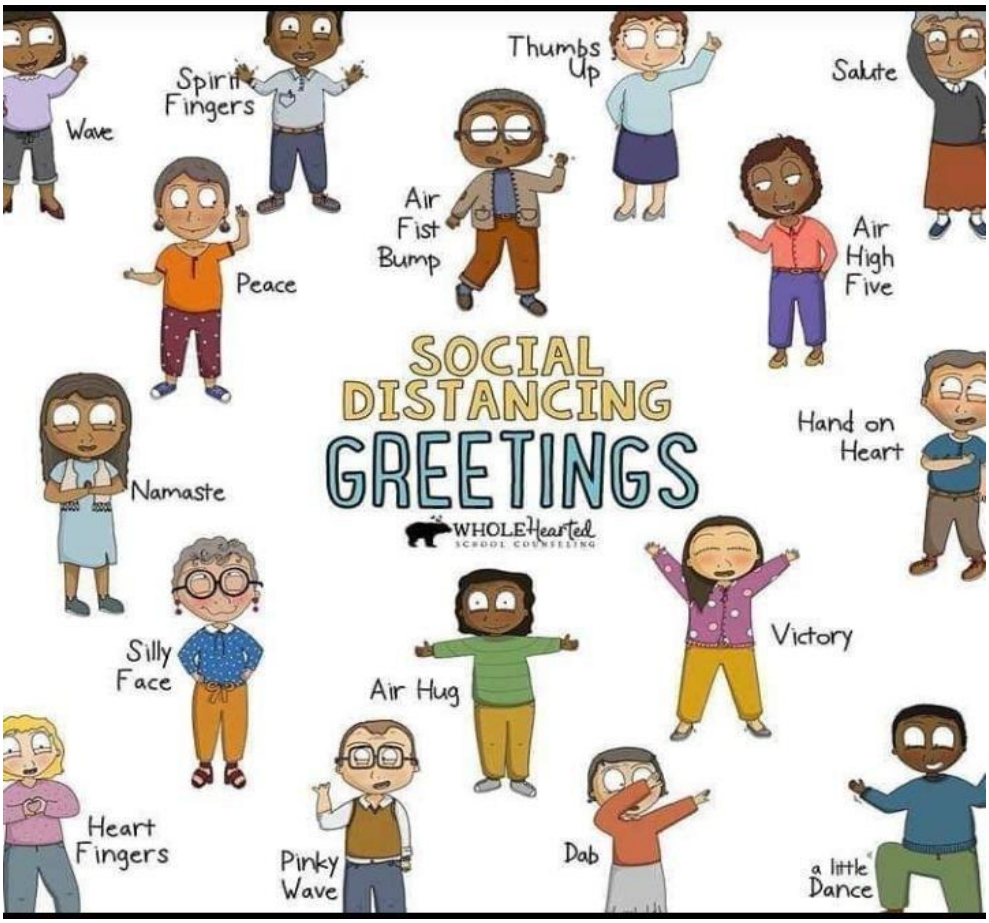


In accordance with the requirement of the Extraordinary National Commission for Public Health, parents are required to sign the declaration on their own responsibility for compliance with the COVID-19 infection control rules. ***Signing the Declaration is compulsory for the parents of each student.***
Please send the signed declaration to the class teacher no later than the first day of the child's physical presence at school. https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UxTiLE1IKtNdT07izs7H03uROS2mqKHc

The safeguarding of your child is very important for us that's why we need to update the information provided by you earlier. The school needs to be informed if your child has permission to leave the school by himself, who are the persons authorized to pick up your child and if there are days when your child is leaving early. Please fill out the form before September 6th, using the following link:
https://forms.gle/wD1pceUEucwLHAqR8
Our priority is a learning environment that is safe and free from distractions and disruptions. We take this very seriously as both teachers and students work hard every day.
Your feedback is very important!

CORONAVIRUS
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PLEASE KEEP
APART

WASH YOUR HANDS
Hand washing is a quick and simple way to protect you from germs. It's easy and only takes 20 seconds.
Sing these words to the melody of "Twinkle Twinkle" while washing your hands!
1 Palm to palm
Twinkle Twinkle little star ♪
2 Between Fingers
See how clean my two hands are ♫
3 Back of Hands
Soap and water wash and scrub
4 Finger-nails
Get those germs off rub a dub ♫
5 Base of thumbs
Twinkle Twinkle little star ♪
6 Wrists
See how clean my two hands are ♫
KINGprinters
Printed on Synaps XM135


Wave
Spirit Fingers
Thumbs Up
Salute
Air Fist Bump
Peace
Air High Five
SOCIAL DISTANCING GREETINGS
WHOLEHearted SCHOOL COUNSELING
Hand on Heart
Namaste
Silly Face
Air Hug
Victory
Heart Fingers
Pinky Wave
Dab
a little Dance

A Smart School Life to Prevent COVID-19

Open windows often to let fresh air in and clean your desk regularly.

- Occasionally open the windows for your health and that of your friends. Especially, do so right after arriving at school and during break, lunchtime, and clean-up time!
- Clean your own desk regularly.

This is how your school life should be:

- Always wear a mask during classes and breaks.
- Wash your hands often.
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve.
- Avoid physical contact, such as holding hands.
- Do not let others use your personal belongings.

Be considerate to your friends during lunchtime.

- In the school cafeteria, line up at double arm's length apart from each other.
- Do not talk while eating.
- Take off your face mask right before eating your meal and put it back on immediately after.

If you are feeling ill, tell your teacher.

- If you have fever, sore throat, cough, or runny nose, tell your teacher right away.
- If your friend becomes a confirmed case, do not panic; just follow your teacher's instructions.

교육부

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Twitter account(@HIS_Moldova

Cambridge Assessment International Education
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BRITISH COUNCIL
International School Award

eTwinning SCHOOL 2020-2021

ipc INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY CURRICULUM

Global School Alliance MEMBER