

# Presentation Secondary School, Waterford



5<sup>th</sup> Year Student: Sophie Griffin



## **Students in Isolation**

Schools all over Ireland have been shut since March, and while isolating at home, this is no holiday or break for students as some may think. It's not an ideal situation but it is a necessary step so we can all return to routine as quickly, and as safely, as possible.

As a student myself, I do not view this period as a 'break' or 'holiday.' I have received daily work to do and I have deadlines to meet. My classmates and I have even attended some online classes over 'Zoom.' My teachers have been in constant contact with each class, providing guidance as best they can in these bizarre circumstances, and for that, I cannot praise them enough.

This is an extremely stressful time for students who wish to continue their studies, especially in the case of every 6<sup>th</sup> year student apprehensive to sit their leaving certificate exams. I have talked to peers of mine who don't like school, but are now desperate to go back.

Despite our preferences and anxiety over this complicated situation, we are persevering and are determined to keep our studies up-to-date. This 'remote learning' as it's called can be difficult, but it can be done, and the students of this country are proving it.

By sheer force of will, we are continuing to learn our curricula and are also developing discipline skills in the process. We recognise that we are currently living through a major historical event (though that's a crazy concept) yet we are still working hard to keep up with our workload, no matter what. This is not a holiday for students, but it is a chance for each of us to develop into resilient, adaptable, more intelligent people, and we know that.

*Sophie Griffin*

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