

Franciscan College



GORMANSTON

11th April 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In January a family in our school received the heart-breaking news that their 13 year old son, 1st Year student Slavomir (Slav) Vavro, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma stage 4.

Supported by his parents Nadia and Vlad, elder brother Vladimir and elder sister Mishka, Slav immediately began intensive chemotherapy, scheduled to run for 27 weeks, followed by a maintenance treatment. The consultant gives a poor prognosis, with only one method of treatment available.

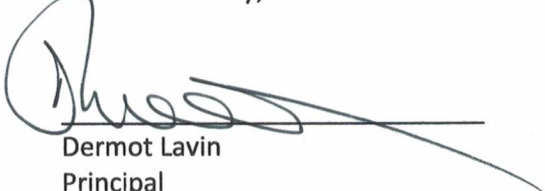
There are broader treatments possible outside of Ireland, with the U.S. having numerous trials available. The family awaits the results of genomic tests to identify a targeted treatment for Slav abroad. In the meantime Slav's mother has given up her job as a Social Worker to care for Slav through his illness.

In support of the family during this exceptionally traumatic time the school will host a special fundraising day on Friday 27th April 2018. We ask you to support this and further details will follow.

Also a 'Go Fund Me' page has been set up for Slav by the family at www.gofundme.com - then search 'Help for Slav', if you search 'Help for Slav Rhabdomyosarcoma' it will bring you a more direct route. Slav's parents appeal for donations to be made and stress that all the money raised is held in trust solely for Slav's treatment. Please show our support for this young lad battling cancer. It is hoped that Slav and his family will draw strength from the support given by the school community – both financial support and support through prayer.

If any parents are willing to help with fund raising on 27th April please contact Ms Miriam Kavanagh at the college reception or email her at finance@gormanstoncollege.ie

Yours faithfully,



Dermot Lavin
Principal