

St Tierney's Primary School
8 Eshnadarragh Road, Mullaghconnolly, Roslea, Co. Fermanagh BT92 7JS



Principal: Mrs Elaine Murray Email: info@sttierneysps.roslea.ni.sch.uk
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Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parent (s)

Welcome back to another school year. We hope everyone will find it a successful, safe and fulfilling one. Please find enclosed information which may be of use to you during the school year and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues or queries. As coaching, extended schools and other activities are confirmed, dates will be communicated via text and website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Murray ☺

Key Dates and Events from September to December so far:

September

Tuesday 5th September – Music recommences with Master McCabe for all classes

Wednesday 13th September – Multi Sports & Skills begin for all classes

Monday 18th September – First full day for P1's. Pick up at 1.50pm at low gate
Election of School and Eco Council Members from P4-P7

Sunday 24th September – School choir singing in Roslea Gospel Service fundraiser

Monday 25th September – Scholastic Book Fair begins – in school for 2 weeks

Tuesday 26th September – P6/7 Welcome back assembly

Friday 28th September – Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday– Meet at McCague's Carpark at 8.40am
A school curriculum and information night for parents to be confirmed for the end of September. Information on this will be communicated at a later date.

October

Friday 27th October – Halloween Dress Up Day – No face masks allowed

Friday 27th October – Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday

Monday 30th October and Tuesday 31st October – School Closed

November

Wednesday 1st November – School Closed

Wednesday 8th November – Flu Jabs in school

Monday 13th November – Odd Socks Day – to launch Anti-bullying Week 2023

Friday 17th - Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday

Friday 24th – Staff Day - Parent Teacher Meeting's ongoing through-out the day

December

Monday 4th December – P1 –P4 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Aladdin"

Monday 11th December – P5 - P7 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Aladdin"

Week Beginning 11th December – Christmas Play's - **P1 & P2 will be an open assembly during the day & P3 – P7 will be a night performance in school – exact dates to be confirmed.**

Friday 15th - Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday

Thursday 21st – School will close @ 12 noon for Christmas Holidays.

Please make sure to keep up to date with all school events through our website www.sttierneyspsroslea.com
The website is also linked to the Schools NI app which is free to download and will give you notifications of news and events. Parents should download the Schools NI app to their phone and select St. Tierney's PS as their school. If you need any assistance with this please call in to the school office.

**SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE GIRLS AND BOYS IN P1
WHO HAVE SETTLED SO WELL IN TO SCHOOL LIFE ALREADY 😊**



**Fiadh
Cathair
Lorna
Tomás
Paige
Jake
Nila
Fiachra
Luke
Shea
Ruby**

STAFFING

Welcome back to all our hard working and dedicated staff for the 2023-24 school year. In addition to arrangements communicated in June, Mrs Trotter will cover P2/3 Principal Release and P5 class on Friday's.

OPEN ASSEMBLIES

This school year we invite parents, families, and the extended school community to share in our faith, learning and ongoing celebrations through invitation to our Open Assemblies at key points throughout the school year. Each class will host 1 'Open Assembly' when their parents and family members will be invited in. You will receive notice of these in advance via school text. The School Mass will also take place towards the end of the year in St. Tierney's Church. Our first Open Assembly will be hosted by the P6/7 class on Tuesday 26th September.

HOMEWORK

Homework will begin for P2-7 from 18th September onwards. Homework will be set on a Monday and should be returned by Friday. While we really value the importance of homework and supporting your child's learning at home, we do not want it to be a struggle in any household so if you have any issues completing homework's, please speak to the class teacher or myself. Mathletics and Accelerated Reader are also seen as important aspects of home learning.

SUSTRANS NI - CYCLE / WALK TO SCHOOL AND FEEL GOOD FRIDAYS

This year we will be continuing to promote active and healthy lifestyle for our pupils. We will launch this program with walk to school day on Friday 28th September, meeting in McCague's carpark @ 8.40am. Hi-Viz should be worn. Parents are welcome to join us on our walk and for this first time any P1 pupils who wish to walk should be accompanied by an adult. We will also use this day each month to put extra special focus on pupil and staff health and wellbeing.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS 2023/24 / SHARED EDUCATION AND EXTRA CURRICULAR

We will continue to offer our pupils a range of activities outside the normal curriculum. Each class will be offered at least 2 x 6-week blocks of activities over the course of the school year. Details to follow. Shared Education projects with our friends in St. Macartan's and Aghadrumsee Primary School will also be planned throughout the year.

We also hope to prepare pupils once again for the Lisnaskea Féis. We await confirmation regarding this and will let you know details as soon as we have them.

ST. TIERNEY'S PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

We will be aiming to recommence our Parent, Teacher and Friends of St. Tierney's Support Group early in the school year and would encourage families to come on board to help out with school events, fundraising and supporting other aspects of school life. More details to follow.

OSKARS GOSPEL CHOIR

Pupils from P6 - P7 are invited to take part in the school choir for the OsKars gospel choir event in St. Tierney's Church on Sunday 24th September @ 5pm. Practices will take place during and after school. Permission slips will be sent home this week.

MUSIC

Each class will receive music tuition every Tuesday with Master McCabe and all pupils from P1 - P7 should have a tin whistle. Pupils from P4 upwards may take up a second instrument also. They can speak to Master McCabe about this at any stage. **Music lessons are £5 per month or £10.00 for each half term (2 months). £10 for September/October now due or £50 for the school year. Please send money in a sealed envelope as soon as possible.**

SWIMMING

Swimming for P5, P6 & P7 will start in February and run up to Easter. More details to follow.

RAINBOW AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Parents can avail of Rainbow Afterschool service for your children until 6pm on school days. Please contact Anna or Roisin at 02867751736 or 00353860515479 for more information.

P7 TRANSFER CLUB

The Transfer Booster Club for Primary 7 will run on Monday's & Thursday' after school starting this Thursday 7th September. Master McMahon & Mrs Murray will be working with pupils on these days in preparation for Post Primary Entrance exams in November.

SPORTS COACHING

The pupils in Year 1 - 7 will have opportunities to avail of Sports Coaching from various external agencies. We will also be competing in Cumann na mBunscoil blitzes and other events throughout the year. In term 1 P1- P7 will all have a multi-skills session with Daniel McIntyre from Fermanagh and Omagh Council starting on Thursday 14th September, then each Wednesday after that. All Children to come in their PE gear on Wednesdays. We also hope to have Core NI on board to deliver a range of PE classes later in the year.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

The annual parent teacher interviews will take place on **Friday 24th November** when you are given the opportunity to meet with the class teacher one on one. Interviews will be ongoing through-out the day. A time-table will be drawn up at a later date and times issued. School closed for pupils on this date.

LEARNING SUPPORT

All pupils may need help and support with certain aspects of their learning as they move through the school. We work closely as teachers and classroom assistants to meet the needs of all our pupils and to be a welcoming and inclusive school to all. The development of our 'Rainbow Room' has added a safe and enriching space for individual and small group work. If at any time you have concerns about any aspect of your child's learning, please speak to the class teacher or myself as Learning Support Coordinator.

ACCELERATED READER AND MATHLETICS

Our Accelerated Reader and Mathletics programmes will soon be up and running. These are very useful in supporting the Literacy and Numeracy curriculum and we encourage all pupils to make the most of these resources. P3 - 7 will take part in Accelerated Reader and P1-7 will take part in Mathletics.

MILK AND MEALS

School milk for the year comes to **£39** for each child. Milk can be paid for either annually or at the beginning of each term £13 per term September, January, and April.

School meals are £2.60 per day / £13 per week. It is good practice to send money on a Monday in an envelope with name and days for dinners listed. All meals must be paid up to date for the last Friday of each month to allow for bank reconciliation with Education Authority. Text reminders will be sent if necessary.

Lunch Times are 12.00-12.45 for P1 -P4 and 12.35-13.20 for P5 - P7.

BREAKFAST AND SNACK

Breakfast Club in the school canteen every morning from 8.20 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. 40p per item.

Toast

Pancakes

Hot chocolate

Cereal

Orange Juice

Children can pre-order and pay for break time each morning in the classroom. The following items will be available for break-time. Children may still bring their own snacks for morning break.

Selection of Fruit Yoghurt Bottled water 40p per item

Pupils bringing their own snack and lunch to school should continue to follow our Healthy Eating policy and keep sweet treats to a minimum and for lunch time only. Fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not allowed.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils should wear full school uniform throughout the year, this includes summer pinafores/dresses and shorts in better weather. Please remember that PE bottoms/leggings and shorts must be plain navy. PE tops allowed are light blue polo shirts. Please ensure that the children care for their uniform and develop a habit of changing after school. Check regularly throughout the year that names are still on each item, including school bags, coats, sweatshirts, trousers, ties, fleeces, indoor and outdoor shoes, blouses/shirts, P.E. gear, lunch boxes and bottles.

PUPIL'S DATA SHEET/TELEPHONE NUMBERS

A copy of the details we currently hold for your child will be sent home shortly. It is important for GDPR purposes that you check all contacts we have for your child and that their phone numbers are accurate. Parents email addresses need to be checked as well. Please list names of ALL adults allowed to collect your child from school. Return the forms to school once they have been checked as we **MUST** keep them for GDPR purposes. Let us know any changes throughout the year. If you are not receiving school texts, please let us know immediately.

MEDICAL ISSUES

If your child has any medical conditions, please contact the school office to complete the relevant forms. If your child needs medication to be kept in school, please make sure we have it and that it is in date and that permission forms have been signed for this.

LATENESS OR ABSENCE/TRANSPORT HOME

Please ensure that your child is in class line at 8.50 a.m. every morning. Class starts at 8.50 a.m pupils should only come on school grounds from 8.30 a.m. onwards, unless attending breakfast club, as supervision commences at that time. If your child is going to be late or absent e.g. doctor or dentist's appointment, please inform the class teacher the day before. Similarly, please inform the teacher if your child has been absent due to illness or for any other reason. If pupils are going home by an alternative means other than that which they normally do, then the school should be informed by note or phone call in the interest of pupil safety. Written permission should be given to school by parents for pupils to walk or cycle to and from school.

VISITORS/PARENTS

All visitors/parents to St. Tierney's Primary School must report to the office and should wait in that area for relevant staff or for children being collected. Parents who wish to speak to their child's class teacher should make an appointment through the office.

In line with school policy and to ensure confidentiality, communication with staff regarding pupils should be through proper school channels during school hours - school phone, school email or in person. The class teacher should be the first point of contact for any concerns and I am always contactable through email at emurray339@c2kni.net.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

September 2023 - June 2024

School closures may be subject to change throughout the year. Any change will be communicated asap.
Please note - No breakfast club, snack or dinners on half days.

October	Monday 30 th Tuesday 31 st	Holiday Holiday 
November	Wednesday 1 st Friday 24 th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Parent Teacher Meetings
December	Thursday 21 st Friday 22 nd	Finish @ 12 Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
January	Monday 1 st Tuesday 2 nd Wednesday 3 rd	Holiday Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
February	Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th	Mid Term Break
March	Monday 18 th Wednesday 27 th Thursday 28 th Friday 29 th	Holiday Finish @ 12 Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Easter Holidays 
April	Monday 1 st - Friday 5 th April	Easter Holidays
May	Monday 6 th Tuesday 7 th Monday 27 ^h Tuesday 28 th Wednesday 29 th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
June	Friday 28 th June	Summer Holidays - Finish @ 12 

Term 1 commences Friday 1st September 2023
Term 2 commences Thursday 4th January 2024
Term 3 commences Monday 8th April 2024