

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



Principal: Mrs Elaine Murray
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Monday 9th September 2024

Dear Parent (s)

Such a lovely time we had with all the boys and girls last week when they returned to school full of excitement and hope for a great year ahead and delighted to see all their friends again. We wish all staff and pupils the very best for the 2024-25 school year and hope that it will be a successful, safe and fulfilling one for all. 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 and when 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 10th – Music recommences with Master McCabe for all classes
- Friday 13th – GAA Coaching with Pat Cadden for P4-7 pupils
- Monday 16th September – First full day for P1's. Pick up at 1.50pm at low gate
Fermanagh Omagh District Council – Fundamentals Programme begins for P1-3
Election of School and Eco Council Members from P4-P7
- Wednesday 18th – Core NI in school PE and Afterschool Club for 6 weeks
- Tuesday 24th September – P7 Beginning of New School Year Assembly – Open to families
- Friday 27th September – Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday– Meet at McCague's Carpark at 8.40am
- Monday 30th September – Scholastic Book Fair begins – in school until Friday 4th October.

October

- Monday 7th – P5 Healthy Me Program with Action Mental Health
- Thursday 10th / Saturday 12th / Sunday 13th – Lisnaskea Féis Events
- Monday 14th – P6&P7 Healthy Me Program with Action Mental Health
- Tuesday 15th – P5&P6 Assembly – school only
- Friday 25th – Halloween Dress Up Day – No face masks allowed
- Friday 25th – Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday
- Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st October – School Closed

November

- Friday 1st – School Closed
- Monday 11th – Odd Socks Day – to launch Anti-bullying Week 2024
- Tuesday 12th - P4&P5 Assembly – Open to families
- Wednesday 20th – Flu Jabs in school
- Friday 22nd - Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday
- Friday 29th – Staff Day - Parent Teacher Meeting's ongoing through-out the day

December

- Monday 2nd – P1 –P4 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Rapunzel"
- Tuesday 3rd – P3 Assembly
- Friday 6th – P5 - P7 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Rapunzel"
- Date to be confirmed – Whole School Carol Service in St Tierney's Church Roslea @ Night
- Friday 13th - Sustrans Walk to School and Feel Good Friday
- Friday 20th - School will close @ 12 noon for Christmas Holidays

During on-going work at school please do not use the top gate.

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

Rosena Rosie Cillian Meabh

Sofia Bella Alanna Jack

Séan Óg Amelia Francis

STAFFING - Welcome back to all our hard working and dedicated staff for the 2024-25 school year. Miss Aoife Boyle will also join us for the school year as she completes her PGCE in Teaching and Miss Cailín Sreenan will return to complete her Child Care study placement.

At the end of September, we will say a sad farewell to Miss Marie Mallon, who has been a valued member of St. Tierney's staff for many a year. I am sure you will join us in wishing her all the best for the future.

OPEN ASSEMBLIES - We continue to invite families to join us for 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 P7 class on Tuesday 24th September.

HOMEWORK - Homework will begin for P2-7 from 16th September onwards. 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. Athletics and Accelerated Reader are also seen as important aspects of home learning.

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

We continue to promote a Healthy Life Style and will begin with walk to school day on Friday 27th September, meeting in McCague's carpark @ 8.40am. Hi-Viz should be worn. Parents are welcome to join us. We will also use this day each month to put extra special focus on pupil and staff health and wellbeing.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS 2024/25 / 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 will also help prepare pupils for the Lisnaskea Féis which runs from 10th - 19th October 2024.

ST. TIERNEY'S PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

We will have a PTFA meeting early in the school year and would encourage any new families to come on board that may be able to help out with fundraising and supporting other aspects of school life. Thank you to all the parents that helped out last year. We continue to raise money to pay for the new touch screen interactive whiteboards which will be installed in all classrooms this week.

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS RECONSTITUTION - This term, the Reconstitution of the Board of Governors of St. Tierney's Primary School will take place. Liz Rooney is currently serving as Parent Rep on the board. This position will be up for nominations in the coming weeks. More details to follow.

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 on Monday 9th September. Master McMahan & Mrs Murray will be working with pupils on these days in preparation for Post Primary Entrance exams in November.

SPORTS COACHING - PE uniform should be worn on coaching and PE days.

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.

Core NI will also be on board to deliver a range of PE classes throughout the year. They will also run an afterschool club for 6 weeks beginning 18th September. P1-2 from 1.50 - 2.50 pm and P3-7 from 2.50-3.50pm. Places are limited and should be booked through the Core Ni website. The cost is £5 per session.

So far we have notice of P1-3 Fundamentals on a Monday, Core Ni for all on Wednesday and Gaelic for P4-7 on Fridays.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS - The annual parent teacher interviews will take place on **Friday 29th November** when you are given the opportunity to meet with the class teacher one on one. Times will be issued closer to the time.

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 MATHEMATICS - Our Accelerated Reader and Mathematics 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 Mathematics.

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 -P3 and 12.30-13.15 for P4 - P7.

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BREAKFAST AND SNACK - Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.20 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. 40p per item.

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|---------------|--------------|
| Toast | Cereal |
| Pancakes | Orange Juice |
| Hot chocolate | |

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. 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. 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/COLLECTION - 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.

You will receive an email shortly to ask you to confirm who is allowed to collect your child from school. Please reply to this in as much detail as possible. 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 - In the interest of Child Protection and Safeguarding, 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, you should not go to the classroom doors unless instructed to. 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.

Please make sure to keep up to date with all school events through our website www.sttierneyspsroslea.com All parents should download the Schools NI app to their phone and select St. Tierney's PS as their school. This is linked to the website and will give you notices and information throughout the year. If you need any assistance with this please call in to the school office.

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SCHOOL CLOSURES September 2024 - June 2025

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.

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| October | Wednesday 30 th Thursday 31 st | Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Holiday  |
| November | Friday 1 st Friday 29 th | Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Parent Teacher Meetings |
| December | Friday 20 th | Finish @ 12 |
| January | Wednesday 1 st Thursday 2 nd Friday 3 rd | Holiday Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) |
| February | Monday 10 th - Friday 14 th | Mid Term Break |
| March | Monday 17 th | Holiday  |
| April | Thursday 17 th Friday 18 th - Friday 25 th April | Finish @ 12 Easter Holidays |
| May | Monday 5 th Tuesday 6 th Monday 26 ^h Tuesday 27 th | Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) |
| June | Friday 27 th June | Summer Holidays - Finish @ 12  |

Term 1 commences Monday 2nd September 2024

Term 2 commences Monday 6th January 2025

Term 3 commences Monday 28th April 2025

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