



Principal: Mrs Elaine Murray Email: info@sttierneysps.roslea.ni.sch.uk
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9th September 2021

Dear Parent (s)

We have had such a busy but rewarding start to the school year, with the children settled so well back in to their classes and school routine. Please read through the Newsletter with your child(ren) to keep yourselves informed and up to date on school life.

While we have been able to adjust some of our Covid guidelines, we are mindful of the high number of cases and disruption to schools across the province and we are grateful for your support as we try to manage confirmed or suspected cases in these challenging times. We will do our best to keep up to speed with the ever changing situation and try to minimise disruption to classes and learning. Please make yourself familiar with our Covid Guidelines and return the enclosed acknowledgement slips.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Murray ☺

Key Dates from September to December:

September

Tuesday 21st September - P7 Assembly (Will be available for parents to view on the school website)

Tuesday 21st September - School Council & Eco Council Election Results

Monday 27th Sept - Friday 1st Oct Sustrans Walk to School Week. We hope to mark this with one class per day meeting at McCagues throughout the week and walking, to school together.

October

Monday 18th – 22nd - Maths Week

Tuesday 19th October – P5 & P6 Assembly

Tuesday 21st October - Flu-jab for those pupils who have had parental consent given.

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

Thursday 28th & Friday 29th October – School Closed

November

Monday 1st November – School Closed

Monday 15th - Friday 19th – Anti Bullying Week

Tuesday 16th November – P3 & P4 Assembly

Friday 26th – School Closed for Pupils - Parent Teacher Meeting's (in school or on phone to be confirmed)

Action Mental Health

This year we are delighted to expand our link with AMH who will deliver a series of workshops to all our classes throughout November supporting pupils in the area of mental health and emotional wellbeing through a range of age appropriate activities. They will also host an online Wellbeing session for parents on **Tuesday 9th November**.



December

13th – 17th Christmas Performances in school (will be available on the website)

Wednesday 22nd – School will close @ 12 noon for Christmas Holidays. No Dinners this day

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



Mary-Kate Brennan	Charlie Brown	Mia Caffrey-Martin
Cormac Collaghan	Cahir Cassidy	Aoife Connolly
James Connolly	John Joe Connolly	Niall Deery
Eoin Elliott	Oscar Juknys	James McCaughey
Finn McKenna	Louie McMahon	Ruairí Moane
Emily Mulligan	Orlaith Murray	Eleanor O'Rourke
Niamh Woods		

STAFFING

Our school cook, Margaret McKenna, and assistant cook, Carmel Rooney, have retired after many years in St. Tierney's. We would like to thank them both for their hard work, dedication and professionalism over the years. We wish them both a long, healthy and happy retirement. Caroline Pearson has taken on the role of Head Cook, assisted by Majella Doran. It has been great to have the school kitchen back in operation and we wish them the best of luck in their roles.



We also welcome Mrs Diana Connolly Mc-Quillan who has joined our team as a classroom assistant.

PUPIL'S DATA SHEET/TELEPHONE NUMBERS

A copy of the details we currently hold for your child has been sent home. 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 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. Also, if you are not receiving school texts please let us know immediately.

HOMEWORK

Homework will begin for P2-7 from next week onwards. Homework will be set on a Monday and should be returned on a Friday. With Covid guidelines in place, homework will follow a set format throughout the school and will be marked by the class teachers or with pupils in class as age appropriate. We do not want homework to be a struggle in any household so if you have any issues completing homework's, please speak to the class teacher or myself. Please help your child to engage with any aspect of online learning should we have to resort to this at any time.

P1-3 will use Seesaw (please download app and sign up with details you have been given for this school year) and P4-7 will use Google Classroom.

SCHOOL BUS

Due to staggered finishing times, Tommy's bus may leave school from 2.45pm. If children are allowed to walk in from the bus, please put it in writing to the school and let Tommy know also.

MUSIC

We are very fortunate to have Mr Pat McCabe on board as our school music teacher. Each class will receive music tuition in the hall every Tuesday and all pupils from P1 - P7 should have a tin whistle. Other instruments from P4 up. **Music lessons are £10.00 for each half term. £10 for September/October now due or £50 for the school year. Please send money in a labelled envelope.**

PE/SPORTS COACHING

Pupils should wear PE clothes to school on their allocated PE day(s). Current arrangements for Term 1 are: P4-7 Gaelic coaching with Keith from Fermanagh GAA on Thursday mornings.

PE lessons - P1 - Friday, P2/3 - Wednesday, P3/4- Tuesday & Thursday (with GAA coach), P5/6 - Monday & Thursday (with GAA coach), P7 - Wednesday & Thursday (with GAA Coach).

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 as part of their homework routine. P3 - 7 will take part in Accelerated Reader and P1-7 will take part in Mathletics. **There will be £5 fee per pupil for Mathletics due in November 2021.**

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**. All meals must be paid up to date for the last Friday of each month to allow for bank reconciliation with Education Authority.

Extended Schools 21/22

Our Extended Schools Programme, which we hope will 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. More details will follow once the activities have been finalised.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please ensure that the children care for their uniform and develop a habit of changing after school.

Children's names should be marked on the following: School bags, coats, sweatshirts, trousers, ties, fleeces, indoor and outdoor shoes, blouses/shirts, P.E. gear and lunch boxes. Please check regularly throughout the year that names are still on each item.

LATENESS OR ABSENCE/TRANSPORT HOME

If your child is going to be late or absent e.g. doctor or dentist's appointment, please inform the school office or 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.

VISITORS/PARENTS

All visitors/parents to St. Tierney's Primary School must report to the office.

Parents who wish to speak to their child's class teacher need to make an appointment through the office. Appointments will be accommodated out of school hours.

With current guidelines in place, parents are discouraged from congregating at the school gates and should make use of staggered start/finish times, moving on promptly to avoid any congestion.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

September 2021 – June 2022

October	Thursday 28 th Friday 29 th	Holiday Holiday	
November	Monday 1 st Friday 26th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Parent Teacher Meetings	
December	Wednesday 22 nd - Friday 31 st (Finish @ 12 on Wed 22 nd)	Christmas Holidays	
January	Monday 3 rd Tuesday 4 th Wednesday 5 th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)	
February	Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th	Mid Term Break	
March	Thursday 17 th Friday 18 th	Holiday for St Patrick's Day Holiday for St Patrick's Day	
April	Thursday 14 th April Friday 15 th – Friday 22nd	Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Easter Holidays	
May	Monday 2 nd Tuesday 3 rd	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)	
June	Wednesday 1 st Thursday 2 nd Friday 3 rd Thursday 30 th	Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Late May Bank Holiday Bank Holiday Summer Holidays – Half Day	