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



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8th September 2022

Dear Parent (s)

Welcome back to another school year. We hope everyone will find it a successful, safe and fulfilling one and we are delighted to be able to move towards a more normal school day as in pre covid times. This will include further development of the Extended Schools Programme and Extra-Curricular activities, Open Assemblies and exciting opportunities for the School and Eco Councils.

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.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Murray 😊

Key Dates from September to December: September

Election of School and Eco Council Members from P4-P7 Wednesday 14th September – Return of mobile library fortnightly visits Monday 12th September – First full day for P1's. Pick up at 1.50pm at low gate Tuesday 13th September – Roald Dahl Day Thursday 15th September – Céilí Dancing Classes for P5 pupils (8 weeks) as part of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Irish Language and Primary Schools' Céilí Tuesday 20th September – P6/7 Welcome back assembly

Friday 30th September – Sustrans Walk to School – Meet at McCague's Carpark at 8.40am

October

Friday 21st – Thursday 27th October – Scholastic Book Fair Friday 28th October – Halloween Dress Up Day – No face masks allowed Monday 31st October – School Closed

November

Tuesday 1st November – School Closed Tuesday 8th November – P5 attend Céilí in Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen Monday 14th November – Odd Socks Day – to launch Anti-bullying week Friday 25th – Staff Day - Parent Teacher Meeting's ongoing through-out the day

December

Wednesday 7th December - Flu Jabs in school **Monday 12th December** - P1 -P5 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Cinderella" **Tuesday 13th December** - P6 & P7 Panto in Armagh Market Place "Cinderella" **Wednesday 21st** - School will close @ 12 noon for Christmas Holidays.

Please make sure to keep up to date with all learning and 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. Please download this app to your phone or tablet.

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



Isla, Quinn, Cillian, Zaffron. Pawel, Felix Óg, Dan, Lily, Donnacha, Aoife, Noah, Killian, Christopher, Cassie, Emma, Cormick, Oliver, Jake (missing from photo) We also welcome a new pupil, Paula, who has settled so well in to our Primary 3 class!

STAFFING

Welcome back to all of our hard working and dedicated staff for the 2022-23 school year. Best of luck to Mrs McElroy as she begins her maternity cover and welcome back to Mrs McAloon who will teach the P5 class for the school year. Mrs Trotter will cover P2/3 Principal Release as well as learning support work through the Engage Programme. We also welcome on board Carmel and Colleen who have joined our team as classroom assistants.

OPEN ASSEMBLIES

This school year we would like to invite parents, families and the extended school community to share in our faith, skills and ongoing celebrations through invitation to our Open Assemblies at key points throughout the school year. In addition to our ongoing assemblies, each class will host 1 'Open Assembly' when their parents and family members will be invited in. You will receive notice of these via school text. The School Mass will take place towards the end of the year.

HOMEWORK

Homework will begin for P2-7 from 19th 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.

SUSTRANS NI - CYCLE / WALK TO SCHOOL

This year we will be continuing to work with Sustrans to promote active and healthy lifestyle for our pupils. We will launch this program with walk to school day on Friday 30th September, meeting in McCague's carpark @ 8.40am. 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.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS 2022/23 / SHARED EDUCATION AND EXTRA CURRICULAR

We are excited to launch 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. Details to follow.

We also hope to prepare pupils once again for the Peace Proms and Lisnaskea Féis. We await confirmation from these organisations and will let you know details as soon as we have them.

Swimming for P5, P6 & P7 will start in February and run up to Easter. More details will follow closer to the time. This year we also look forward to restarting Shared Education projects with our friends in St. Macartan's and Aghadrumsee Primary School.

LITERACY/NUMERACY CLUB

The Literacy/Numeracy Transfer Club for Primary 7 is running on Monday & Thursday until Thursday 10th November.

MUSIC

We are very fortunate to have Mr Pat McCabe on board as our school music teacher and we welcome him back for his 40^{th} year teaching music in St. Tierney's. His contribution to masses, music, assemblies and concerts throughout the school year is invaluable. Each class will receive music tuition every Tuesday and **all** pupils from P1 - P7 should have a tin whistle. Tin whistles are available in the school and can be bought for £5.00.

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.

SPORTS COACHING

The pupils in Year 1 - 7 will have opportunities to avail of Sports Coaching from various external agencies including Ulster GAA, Fermanagh GAA and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. 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 session with Eimear Keenan from the Ulster Council starting on Monday 12th September. All Children may come in their P.E gear on Mondays.

We also hope to have Core NI on board to deliver a range of PE classes later in the school year.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

You will receive curriculum information and class newsletters before the end of September. The annual parent teacher interviews will take place on Friday 25th 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 later.

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. We also welcome back Kyla McManus and Denise Kelly from the Education Authority teaching support team to work with individual pupils as well as Mrs Trotter who will facilitate blocks of Engage support. This term we are also delighted to have Lisa McManus from Shine Play Therapy working with particular pupils on a one to one basis.

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.

AUTUMN BOOK FAIR

The book fair will take place this year from Friday 21st - Thursday 27th October. Pupils will have opportunities to browse the book fair throughout the school day and may bring in money if allowed. Parents are also free to visit the book fair before and after school. A percentage of profits raised from the book fair goes towards purchasing books for our school.

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

BREAKFAST AND SNACK

We are delighted to relaunch our Breakfast Club in the school canteen every morning. Breakfast is available - every day from 8.20 a.m. to 8.45 a.m., starting Monday 12th September.

Toast	40p	Cereal	40p
Pancakes	20p	Orange Juice	40p
Hot chocolate	30p		

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-40p Yoghurt-40p Bottled water-40p

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.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents are to be congratulated for their support of the School Uniform. Please ensure that the children care for their uniform and develop a habit of changing after school.

Please check regularly throughout the year that names are still on each item.

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.

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.

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.

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.

SCHOOL CLOSURES September 2022 - June 2023

October	Monday 31st	Holiday
November	Tuesday 1 st Friday 25th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
December	Thursday 22 nd - Friday 30 th Finish @ 12 - Wednesday 21st	Christmas Holidays 🗼
January	Monday 2 nd Tuesday 3 rd Wednesday 4 th	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
February	Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th	Mid Term Break
March	Friday 17 th Monday 20 th	Holiday Holiday
April	Wednesday 5 th April Thursday 6 th April Friday 7 th - Friday 14 th	Finish @ 12 Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Easter Holidays
Μαγ	Monday 1 st Tuesday 2 nd Monday 29 th Tuesday 30 th Wednesday 31 st	Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Holiday Non-Contact Day (Staff Only) Non-Contact Day (Staff Only)
June	Tuesday 30 th	Summer Holidays - Half Day