

St Tierney's Primary School  
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2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear parents and children

We are so looking forward to welcoming our Primary 1, 2 and 3 pupils back to school on Monday. It seems a long time since they left us for the Christmas holidays and then had to switch to remote learning again. At the moment the NI Executive have said that they will switch back to Remote Learning again on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, but it is thought that they may revisit this and we will keep you updated. I have included some information below in relation to school restart.

Pupils should wear school uniform on return to school. Bring a coat for outdoor activities. School dinners will be available as before. We are in Week 4 of the dinner menu. Please try and order for the week on a Monday and send all money in a sealed envelope. If taking lunch, please use a wipeable lunch box or disposable bag. All pupils should bring a healthy snack for morning break. School buses will operate as normal. Children are advised to wear a face mask if travelling on the bus.

Tin whistle will recommence for P3 pupils on Tuesday as before. Please ask them to practice their tunes from Google Classroom so that they are up to speed.

We understand that it has been a strange time for families and that while excited, some pupils may be anxious about coming back to school. There will be a strong focus on the emotional health and well-being of pupils on their return allowing them time to settle back in to learning and re-establish friendships. There will be time allocated for well-being/PDMU activities, outdoor play and learning, PE etc.

In order to maintain our high levels of health and safety similar measures will be put in place to minimise the risk of the spread of Covid-19 within the school. These include:

The class bubble system remains in place. No mixing of classes.

Specified entry/exit doors for classes.

Staggered start and finish times of 8.40-9.00am and 1.40-2.00pm(P1&2) and 2.40-3.00pm (P3).

Increased hand washing and sanitisation. Temperature checks.

Social distancing between adults.

No entry to the school for parents or visitors without prior agreement.

No school bags or transport of items from home to school unless necessary and requested by teacher.

Homework will be a minimum from now until Easter and should be submitted through online platforms.

Finally, please be assured that we will do all we can to make the return to school a successful one for your child and if you have any queries please contact us at any time.

Mrs Murray