

St Tierney's Primary School

8 Eshnadarragh Road, Mullaghconnolly, Roslea, Co. Fermanagh BT92 7JS



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19th April 2021

Dear Parent(s)

It has been great to have all the pupils back in school, to hear the buzz around the classrooms and to see the pupils outside making the most of the good weather. We are hopeful that we will enjoy a full term 3 of face to face teaching and look forward to a busy and fulfilling term.

Please be mindful that we still have to follow all guidelines and restrictions around Covid-19 and we would ask that you continue to support the rules and routines that we have in place.

I have included some information for the term ahead. As always, thank you for your support and please email or phone the school if you have any queries or concerns.

Mrs Murray ☺

HOLY SACRAMENTS

Pupils have begun preparation for the Holy Sacraments in class. Please make sure that they are learning any prayers, etc and completing any related activities that may be sent home.

Important dates are as follows:

P7 Confirmation - Saturday 5th June at 11am in St.Tierney's Church.

P4 First Confessions - Thursday 6th May in St.Tierney's Church. Individual times for pupils.

P4 First Holy Communion - Saturday 22nd May at 11am in St. Tierney's Church.

Please be mindful that due to ongoing restrictions it will most likely only be immediate households permitted for both Sacraments, along with Confirmation sponsors. Dates are also subject to change in light of any further restrictions which may be put in place by the NI Executive at the time.

P7 CYCLING PROFICIENCY Cycling proficiency begins this Thursday for P7 pupils from 2.50pm until 3.50pm and will run until mid-June. Please make sure you have signed and returned the permission slip if you wish your child to take part. All bicycles should be checked over before Thursday to ensure that they are in good condition, brakes working, wheels checked, seat height adjusted etc. Pupils should also have a good fitting helmet. Ideally, bikes should be brought into school and home again on a Thursday. Please let us know in advance if this does not suit. Also, please put in writing on the permission slip if you allow your child to cycle home alone.

AFTERSCHOOLS We welcome the news from the Department of Education that we can now begin outdoor Afterschools Sports clubs. We will run a 6 week sports club for each class beginning next week as follows. Please sign and return permission slips.

Tuesday: P3/4 2.50pm - 3.50pm

Wednesday: P1 1.45 - 2.45pm P6/7 - 2.50pm - 3.50pm

Thursday: P2 1.45 - 2.45pm P5/6 - 2.50pm - 3.50pm

CYCLING AND AFTERSCHOOLS ARE WEATHER PERMITTING

SCHOOL NURSE The school nurses will be here on Wed 28th and Thurs 29th April to carry out sight and hearing screening for P1 and P2 pupils who have returned parental consent forms.

ACCELERATED READER - HIT YOUR TARGET! and MATHLETICS - GOING FOR GOLD!

This term we will continue with Accelerated Reader and Mathletics programmes. These are very useful in supporting the Literacy and Numeracy curriculum and we encourage all pupils to make the most of these resources. We will have special prizes and awards for pupils who hit their targets in Accelerated Reader or achieve a Gold Certificate in Mathletics before end of Term.

MUSIC Unfortunately the situation with tin whistle and singing indoors in schools remains under review by the Department. We will continue with other instruments only until guidance changes and post tunes for tin whistle online for the moment. If weather permits, we may hold tin whistle outdoors. We would appreciate payment of £10 per pupil for those participating in music from now until end of term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL Well done to our School Council who contacted Roslea Shamrocks GFC and asked them to help repair the goal posts on our pitch. We are delighted and so grateful that the football club have agreed to replace our old goal posts, provide us with additional portable goals and line out the pitch. Huge thanks from us all to everyone at the club who has made this possible. The School Council also surveyed their classmates to see how they would like to spend Wellbeing money that we had been allocated and the majority of pupils voted for a quiet space outside the school. We are loving our new outdoor classroom that has been bought and assembled and can't wait for the School Council to get decorating it.

ECO COUNCIL The Eco-Council have begun to weed out the school garden beds and we look forward to getting busy with some planting in the summer term ahead.

SUSTRANS-ACTIVE TRAVEL Although we can't gather as normal and walk together, we would like to promote Sustrans Active Travel event which will run from 19th -30th April and encourage you to help your child walk, scoot or cycle to school, or even part of the way. Social distancing should be adhered to at all times.

MAY ASSESSMENTS

In order to allow pupils to settle back in to school we intend to push back scheduled Standardised Assessments in Literacy and Numeracy for pupils in Primary 3-7 until the end of May. We do not want any pressure put on pupils over these tests and are mindful that they will not be fully reflective of pupil performance under normal circumstances. As they have to be marked by an external organisation they will most likely not be back in time to be included in June reports but will be available to parents on request at the end of term.

P6 TRANSFER CLUB Uncertainty remains around the arrangements for Transfer 2021 but we will go ahead and begin Literacy and Numeracy Club on a Monday and Tuesday from 2.50-3.50pm next week for any pupils who may wish to sit the Transfer Test in 2021. If we hear that there will be no entrance exams for the Enniskillen schools, there will be no further clubs.

If you need to alert the school to any developments in relation to Covid-19 during evenings, weekends or school closures, please email emurray339@c2kni.net and I will get back to you as soon as possible.