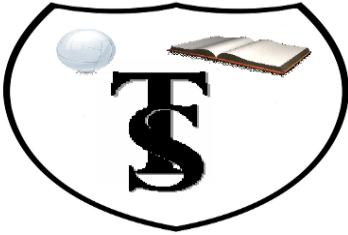


St. Teresa's Primary School



60, Tullyherron Road, Mountnorris. Co. Armagh BT60 2UF

PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Sinead Mc Court

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Dear Parents/Carers,

2nd September 2024

A big welcome back to everyone, I hope you all had a very enjoyable and relaxing Summer, a special welcome to all our new pupils entering our Reception and Primary One classes this year. The following are some of the procedures and routines for this school year 2024-2025 and a list of our school holidays and closures are also included in this Newsletter.

Payments to School Secretary

All money which needs to be paid for School dinners/Afterschool should be placed in an envelope each Monday morning and sent into School with your child for our School Secretary, Nicola. Please include your child's name and details of money enclosed on the outside of envelope.

Home School Links

In order to maintain our good home-school links, should any parent wish to speak to a member of staff, we encourage you to contact our School Secretary Nicola who will arrange for your child's teacher to contact you. Nicola is in the office every morning from 8.15am to 9.00am.

I would like to remind parents to visit our school website www.stteresaspstullyherron.com to keep up to date with news items, relevant documents and events. We also encourage parents to download the school app (details can be found on the website) so you can receive updates throughout the year.

We are also continuing to use the Seesaw App this year to communicate to parents, further details to follow.

School Dinners

School Dinners will be available from Monday 2nd September for pupils entitled to Free School meals and other pupils who wish to avail of them, the cost is **£2.60**. A Dinner Menu will be displayed on our School Website each month and a copy will be given to all pupils who regularly take a school dinner. This year the school dinners will be served in two Classrooms- Reception to Primary 3 pupils will have their school dinners in Miss Mc Mahon's Classroom and Primary 4 to Primary 7 pupils will have their school dinners in Mrs Mc Court's Classroom. Children who have a packed lunch will eat their lunches in the following classrooms-Mrs Duffy's Classroom-Reception to Primary 3 pupils, Primary 4 to Primary 7 pupils in Mrs Kelly's Classroom.

As we promote Healthy Eating children may only bring in fruit for Break-Time, fruits such as, Grapes and Strawberries should be cut into small pieces (Cereal Bars and Crackers are not part of our Healthy Break) and only water (Diluted Juice is not permitted) must be contained in the water bottles. We also request that our pupils do not take any food containing Nuts or a Nut product for snacks or lunch into school.

Information, advice and online application forms for free school meals, school transport and uniform grants for 2024/25 are available on the Education Authority website (www.eani.org.uk).

It is very important that you register your child(ren) for free school meals even if they take lunch as the school receives extra funding from the Department of Education for children who are eligible for free school meals.

School Uniforms

All pupils should wear their school PE tracksuit on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and their full-School uniform on Wednesday and Thursday. Girls should wear bottle green socks or tights with their Full-School uniforms,

All children must wear plain black footwear (shoes or runners) Children are **only permitted** to wear their own-coloured runners with their P.E. uniform.

A school coat should be brought into school.

Please label your child's uniform-sweatshirts, jumpers or cardigans to ensure they are not mixed up with other pupils' uniforms and lost.

Homework Routines

Our Class Teachers will begin setting Homework Tasks for Primary 2 to Primary 7 pupils from Monday 9th September. We very much encourage all our pupils to read every evening and to revise Literacy and Maths Facts especially High Frequency Words, Times-Tables/Number Bonds etc.

Reception/Primary 1/Primary 2 Afterschool Club

This Afterschool Club is an excellent facility for parents and pupils as it enables one pick-up at 2.35pm or the Primary 1 and 2 pupils maybe eligible to travel home on the school bus. It is also a good social opportunity for pupils to engage and play with their class peers and develop friendships.

This Club will commence on **Monday 9th September 2024** for Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils from 1.35pm to 2.35pm. For Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils it will cost **£2.50** per day, **£12.50** for the week.

This Afterschool Club will also commence For **Reception pupils on Monday 9th September**, it will cost **£3.00** per day, **£15.00** weekly, as they will remain in school from 1.00pm to 2.35pm.

We do not receive any funding from the Department of Education to provide this service to parents and if there are only a few children attending the Afterschool it is difficult for us to finance, it will only continue for the rest of this school year depending on pupil numbers attending.

Further information will follow at the end of September.

Drop off and Collection Routines

The School Bus will be arriving at the school in the morning at **8.20am**. In order to give the children travelling on the bus adequate time to enter the school premises and to stagger arrival times we would like children travelling by car to arrive at school from **8.25am- 8.35am**.

Punctuality will be key to ensure that this system is effective.

Reception and Primary 1 children may be escorted to the Foundation Classroom Entrance where they will be met by members of staff. An older sibling may also accompany their younger brother or sister to the classroom.

Primary 2 and Primary 3 children may also be escorted to their Classroom Door where they will be met by members of staff. An older sibling may also accompany their younger brother or sister to the classroom.

Primary 4 to Primary 7 children may left at the school gate and the children go directly to their Classrooms.

The School Bus will be leaving school in the afternoon at **2.30pm**. Children who travel by car should be collected at **2.35pm**.

Traffic Management

To ensure the safety of pupils, parents, staff and vehicles, parents and carers can help us achieve this by adhering to the following guidance:

- **Park away from the school entrance.**
- **Do not stop in the middle of the road to drop off or collect your child/children.**
- **Do not exceed the school speed limit of 5mph when either moving off or passing the school during drop off or collection times.**

Below is list of the School Holidays and other dates for this School Year 2024-2025:

Healthy Kidz Coaching	PE Coaching Sessions with Mark Mc Kinley commencing on Tues. 10 th Sept. to Tues. 3 rd Dec. The cost is £15 per pupil (£1.25 per session) This should be paid to Nicola by Friday 27 th September
Relax Kids Programme	Health & Well-Being Sessions with Joanne Callan will commence later this Term– Further information to follow.
Instrumental Lessons	Musical Tuition for P.3 to P. 7 pupils, Pupils can learn to play either the Violin, Ukulele or Guitar during weekly music lessons & work towards a music qualification. The lessons are an addition to the curriculum so will include a cost for the year. If you would like your child to begin or continue these lessons this year please contact Mrs Mc Court by Monday 9th September.
Staff Training Day	Monday 30 th September, School is Closed for Pupils on this day
Flu Vaccination	Friday 18 th October, Parent consent forms completed by this date
Halloween Fun Day	Friday 25 th October -Pupils wear their Halloween Costumes- School will close at 12.30pm, there will be no school bus on this day.
Halloween Holidays	Monday 28 th October – Friday 1st November 2024 (Inclusive) School will Re-open on Monday 4 th November
Parent/Teacher Meetings	Monday 11 th November, the school is closed for pupils on this day
Christmas Performance	Tuesday 17 th December at 1.30pm in St. Teresa’s Church, Tullyherron
Christmas Holidays	Begin on Friday 20 th December @ 10.30 am – Monday 6 th January (Inclusive) School re-opens on Tuesday 7 th January 2025

Mid-Term Break	Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th February (Inclusive)
Book Fair & World Book Day	The Book Fair will be delivered on 27th February to 6th March 2025 bringing an unbeatable range of the latest and best children's books. We will celebrate World Book Day on Friday 7 th March
St. Patrick's Green Day	Friday 14 th March- All pupils wear something green into school, School will close at 12.30pm, there will be no school bus on this day.
St. Patrick's Celebrations	Monday 17 th and Tuesday 18 th March 2025 - School is Closed
Easter Holidays	Thursday 17 th April at 10.30am to Friday 25 th April (Inclusive) There will be no school bus on this day. School re-opens on Monday 28 th April.
May Bank Holidays	Monday 5 th and Monday 26 th May 2025
Summer Holidays	Friday 27 th June at 10.30am.