

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



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10th January 2022

Dear Parent(s)

As we begin another busy term, on behalf of all the staff in St. Tierney's, I would like to wish you a very Happy New Year and to offer sincere thanks for the generosity of parents, families, businesses and the wider community before Christmas. Very thoughtful cards, messages, gifts and donations to our charities and fundraisers were beyond all expectations and again we would like to express our gratitude.



As well as donating shoeboxes for Team Hope and raising £200 for St.Vincent de Paul, we have raised £2045 and €170 for our school funds through our family and pupil raffles. This money will be combined with Wellbeing money and funding from Friends of St. Tierney's PTFA and will go towards fixed play equipment/trim trail for the back play area which should arrive by early Spring ☺.



We really hope that teaching and learning this term will be mostly unaffected by Covid-19. We are realistic however that there may be periods of staff shortages that cannot be avoided and there could well be short periods when classes may be asked to move to Remote Learning for a week or more. Each child will receive home an Emergency Home Learning Pack with work to cover 10 days and parents are asked to keep in mind what arrangements can be made for pupils if particular classes are asked to remain at home at short notice. Emergency Learning packs should be kept for these specific circumstances and not used for general homework unless instructed by their class teacher.

Please keep me fully informed of any confirmed or suspected cases of covid within a household and we ask again that pupils are kept at home in these cases.

In school, we will continue to adhere to guidance around consistent class groupings, hand washing and sanitising, classroom ventilation, face masks on school buses etc. Parents should remain mindful of staggered start and pick up times. Any parent that has to enter the school building should please wear a mask.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation with this and hopefully we will have a successful Term 2 for all. Mrs Murray ☺

Key Dates for January & February

January

Thursday 6th - Feast of Epiphany - All classes watch mass online & Fr Chester visits the school to distribute communion & blessings for the younger children.

Monday 10th - P1 Primary Admissions open online. Please remind any prospective parents within your family/friends that will have a child due to start in September 2022.

Tuesday 11th - NSPCC Class Assemblies

Monday 23rd - Catholic Schools Week begins

Friday 28th - P1 Primary Admissions close

February

Tuesday 1st - St. Brigid's Day.

Tuesday 1st - P7 Post Primary Admissions Open online

Wednesday 9th - Sustrans Ditch the Dark - Walk to School for P1 & P2

Thursday 10th - Sustrans Ditch the Dark - Walk to School for P3 & P4

Friday 11th - Sustrans Ditch the Dark - Walk to School P5 & P6 & P7

} Weather permitting

Friday 11th - Swimming lessons will commence for P5/6/7 at a cost of £40 for 7 sessions which can be paid weekly or in full. Letter to follow.

14th - 18th inclusive - MID TERM BREAK - school closed for all

Wednesday 23rd - P7 Post Primary Admissions close

MUSIC

Thank you to Master McCabe for the excellent accompaniment to our Christmas performances and for joining our P7 pupils who provided such beautiful music and singing for Christmas Eve mass.

Music money for January & February is now due. £10 covers both months. All pupils are encouraged to participate.

MILK

Milk Money for term 2 is now due £13. **If your child took milk in Term 1 and doesn't want to take it any longer, please let the school office know.**

AFTER SCHOOLS

Term 2 Afterschools will begin after mid-term break.

See below for provisional After Schools for Term 2 and 3. Subject to change.

P1 and 2 from 1.45 - 2.45pm and P3-7 from 2.45pm - 3.45pm. Permission letter

relax Kids



	Term 2 - for 6 weeks from week beginning 21 st February	Term 3 - for 6 weeks from week beginning 25 th April
P1	Sports Club (Tuesday)	Relax Kids (Wednesday)
P2	Relax Kids (Wednesday)	Sports Club (Thursday)
P3/4	Sports Club (Tuesday)	Relax Kids (Wednesday)
P5/6	Relax Kids (Wednesday)	Netball (girls only) or Gaelic Football (girls and boys) (Thursday)
P7	ICT (Tuesday)	

P7 will also receive a block of Relax Kids During School Hours in Term 2.

A FULL LIST OF SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR TERM 2 AND 3 ARE AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE



Catholic Schools Week 2022

Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full

Catholic Schools Week takes place week beginning 23rd January 2022. It is important that we continue to nurture the faith of our children and community in these changing and challenging times. This year's theme is: '**Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full**'.

Daily themes that we will celebrate through the week are as follows:

Monday: **Living Life To The Full With God**

Tuesday: **Living Life To The Full Together**

Wednesday: **Celebrating Being Together Again**

Thursday: **Living Life In Wonder and Awe**

Friday: **Living Life And Facing The Future**

HOLY SACRAMENTS FOR 2022

Preparation continues in school this term for the celebration of the Holy Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. We encourage families, particularly those with children preparing for Sacraments, to attend mass on a regular basis.

Provisional arrangements are as follows, but may be subject to change. More detail will follow closer to the time regarding permitted attendance etc..

P4 - First Holy Communion Class

P4 Pupils will attend 9.30am mass as a class on the following dates. Parents are invited to attend if available, but not essential.

Thursday 27th January

Thursday 10th March

Thursday 7th April

Thursday 26th May



**First Confessions - Thursday 10th March
at 7.00pm in St. Tierney's Church**

**First Holy Communion - Saturday 28th
May at 11.00am in St. Tierney's Church**

P7 - Confirmation Class

Enrolment, Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Confirmation Pledge will most likely be celebrated during school hours in the month of February.



The Service of Light was celebrated online as a diocese last year. This year is yet to be confirmed.

**Confirmation - Sunday 27th March at 3pm
celebrated in St. Tierney's Church.**

Time may be changed depending on whether the parish schools will join together or celebrate the sacrament separately.

Don't forget to check out www.sttierneysproslea.com for the latest news & photographs.

NSPCC Speak out. Stay safe. programme



This week we will be participating in the NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities.

Speak out. Stay safe. is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe.* messages are delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered - knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT AREAS

This school year we are happy to be able to move progress our 3 year School Development Plan and move forward with areas that had been identified for Year 2 of the plan. For certain subject areas we will be focusing on the following aspects of the curriculum:

Literacy - Increased opportunities for Talking & Listening and Presenting to an Audience at class and school level. Introducing a whole school hand writing scheme.

Numeracy - Using the outdoor environment for Numeracy. Problem Solving and Investigation work across the Numeracy Curriculum, with a focus on Shape and Space.

ICT - Using ICT to enhance work and developing skills in Animation.

A full summary of Year 2 Priorities for the School Development Plan can be found on the school website, in the Policies section, or a hard copy is available on request.

