



St. Mary's Primary School

www.stmarysstewartstown.com

Parents' Newsletter

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SEPTEMBER 2020

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to a new school year and a very different school day. At the outset, I want to say that as we embrace this new school year it seems already that school life may change from day to day as we are updated by the Department of Education. But I am confident that working with you our parents we will make our way through this and provide a safe and welcoming school for each and every one. I have accompanied this newsletter with a lengthy but important 'Return to School Plan' please read through this and contact us if there is anything you are unsure of.

The 'Return to School Plan' is developed from guidance issued by the Department of Education and you will see that we are putting into place different measures to mitigate against the spread of Covid-19.

These measures include:

New school start and leaving times, put in place to protect the children, staff and parents/carers who are leaving and collecting children. Classes working as 'bubbles' for the vast majority of the day. We want the children to experience school life and enjoy the social aspect of their class and friends, this is a very important aspect of their education. Working with smaller groups of children and larger class environments until Halloween at least. Serving just two classes at a time at lunch time, this joining of two class bubbles is permitted by DE for short times in the school day.

We have welcomed 12 delightfully eager Primary 1 children to school this year and we want to make their memory of starting school positive and welcoming. We cannot forget our past P7 pupils embarking on their first steps in Post Primary education and being Confirmed this Friday 28th August. We hope they undertake this new chapter in their lives with enthusiasm and success.

Finally, a sincere thankyou to Mrs Duffy for leading and managing the school in my absence and my gratitude to the staff, children and to you the parents for your cooperation with school during the world wide pandemic! And as for me, I can only say that I am truly glad to be back, thanks be to God.

We wish all our pupils joy, fulfilment and success in all that they do at St. Mary's Primary School.

Birthdays Celebrations in September Happy Birthday to You!

Alice Martin
Keegan Bennett
Eva Rose Corr
Eva Kelly
Clodagh Coyle
Jayden Campbell
Daire Biggs
Dylan Doris
Senna Dillon-Coyle
Mr Reilly

School Meals

The cost of school dinners remains this year at **£2.60** per day or **£13.00** per week.

Due to restrictions Parents paying for meals must pay in advance in a **clearly marked envelope with the child's name, amount and date(s) the payment is for.**

Staff will not be able to handle money and give change on the daily basis as was. Change will be accrued until the end of the month

Parents in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) please ensure that the correct forms have been sent. Only pupils on the list sent from SEA (Southern Education Authority) are entitled to free school meals with **'no free meals entitlement being carried over from the 2019-20 school year.'** Unfortunatley, this means that those parents must pay for school meals until the school recieves notification from the education authority. **If in doubt, please contact Patricia in the school office.**

*****Thank you to the parents who always follow these guidelines*****



School Uniforms

The new school term always shows the school uniform off to its best. If a child has not got their name (on a label) on their sweatshirt the item will be almost impossible to find.

Please label clearly all items of clothing.

DATES FOR THE SEPTEMBER DIARY

Date	
26th	P. 1. Induction
27th	P. 1. Induction
28th	Confirmation for P7 past pupils (now Year 8) St Marys Church @ 5pm

New school term starts for all pupils P1-7 on Tuesday 1st September

Flu Immunisation Programme

The School Health Team will be visiting the school on 11th November for the flu immunisation programme. Forms will be given out to children and you as a parent will be asked to consent, complete and return it to school.

The programme has been introduced to give protection to children against flu, which can be a very unpleasant illness and can mean that they have to take time off school. It will also help to stop the spread of flu and so will protect people around them as well. The vaccine is given to children by a simple spray into their nose and they can return to their class very quickly afterwards.

Information about the programme and leaflets in other languages can be found at: <http://www.fluawareni.info>

Swimming Lessons

Unfortunately, until directed swimming lessons will not be taking place for the foreseeable future. We will keep you informed if any there are any changes to this.

Changed your mobile number or moved address?

Please make sure that your contact details are up to date with the school secretary.

SEPTEMBER SCHOOL MEALS

Fresh Fruit, water & milk served daily. Any Allergies .. make sure and contact us

	Week commencing;31 st Aug	Week commencing:7 th Sept	Week commencing:14 th Sept	Week Commencing:21 st Sept
Monday		Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread Fish Fingers Carrots & Peas Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Fruit Sponge Cake Custard	Cottage Pie Butchers Burgers Peas and Carrots Pasta/ Mashed Pots and Gravy Shortbread Biscuit /Custard/Peaches	Savoury Mince Fish Fingers Peas and Carrots Mashed Pots/Gravy/Pasta Semolina and Fruit
Tuesday	Butcher Burger and Bap Tuna wraps Chips & Mashed potatoes Salad /Corn/Pasta/Gravy Rice Pudding and Fruit	Cheese and Tomato pizza Salmon Bites/Tuna Wraps Peas/Beans Chips/Mashed Pots /Pasta/Gravy Apple Crumble and Custard	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Grilled Bacon Beans/Peas Chips/Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Rice Pudding and Fruit	Peppered Chicken and Rice Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sweetcorn and Peas Chips/Mashed Pots and Gravy Apple Crumble and Custard
Wednesday	Chicken Curry and Rice Fish Fingers Carrots & Peas/Beans Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Swiss Roll & Custard	Butchers Burger Peppered Chicken and Rice Carrots /Peas Mashed/Pasta/Gravy Chocolate Cookie and Custard	Chicken Curry and Rice Fish Fingers Peas/Corn Mashed Pots and Gravy Chocolate Muffin Cake and Custard	Home-Made Veg or Chicken Soup Butchers Burgers and Bap Selection of Bread Onions/Cheese/Salad Jelly and Fruit
Thursday	Roast Chicken & Stuffing Chicken Chilli Wrap Carrots & Peas Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Rice & Pasta Rice Krispie Square and Custard	Roast Chicken and Stuffing Chicken Chilli Wrap Carrots and Broccoli Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Semolina and Peaches	Roast Turkey and Stuffing Chicken Chilli Wrap Carrots and Broccoli Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Swiss Roll and Custard	Roast Chicken and Stuffing Chicken Chilli Wrap Carrots and Broccoli Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Krispie Square and Custard
Friday	BACK TO SCHOOL BRUNCH Cocktail Sausages Mini Pizza Salad Bar/Sweetcorn Diced Cubes/Pasta/Gravy Frozen Mousse and Fruit	Home-Made Veg and Chicken Soup Hot Dog Selection of Bread Salad/Sauce/Onions/Cheese Jelly and Fruit	Chicken Nuggets (oven baked) Chicken Pasta Baked Corn/Peas Chips/Potatoes/Gravy Ice-Cream Tub and Fruit Vanilla Tubs and Fruit	SEPTEMBER SPECIAL Cocktail Sausage Mini Pizza Salad/Pasta/Gravy Diced Cubes/potatoes Chocolate Cookie and Milkshake

