



Good Luck to all Leavers

23 pupils transferred to Post Primary Education in September 2019.

13 have gone to St. Patrick's College, Maghera, 8 to Gaelchólaiste Dhoire Dungiven, 1 to St. Mary's Grammar School and 1 to Kilonan in Magherafelt. We hope that they all have taken many happy memories with them from Tirkane and we wish them all continued success in their new schools.

Welcome to all new pupils

We welcome 38 new pupils to the school. 11 pupils for Primary 1 and 27 pupils for Rang 1. We also welcome Pádraig Donnelly to Rang 3 and Eoghan Donnelly to Rang 5. We hope that they all enjoy their time in Tirkane and we look forward to sharing these precious years with them.

NB: The school day will end for all Year 1 pupils at **12 noon** until **Friday 20th September 2019**. After this date they will finish at **2.00 p.m.**

The 2-3 o'clock Club

This will commence on **Monday 23rd September** for Year 1 pupils who wish to avail of it. Each session will cost **£1**. Year 2 parents please note the new cost. You may wish to send a small snack for your child to eat during the session. Please notify your child's teacher in writing or Helena, the school Clerical Officer if your child is attending the club.

School Meals

The price of a school dinner is **£2.60**. Part of the schools funding is based on the number of pupils in receipt of **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**. Even if your child may not wish to avail of a school dinner please consider making the application if you think your child is entitled to free school meals. Children are also welcome to bring a packed lunch to school.

Snacks

All Year 1 and 2 pupils will be provided with a snack at break-time in the child's own classroom - this costs **£1.50** per child per week. Year 3-7 pupils may order toast from the school meals kitchen at a cost of **30p** per round. The order should be placed with your child's class teacher. Pupils may also choose to bring a healthy snack to school for mid-morning break.

Food Allergies

We are an Allergy Aware school and have a number of pupils in school with food allergies. To help ensure their safety and well-being in school it is vitally important that you do not send any nuts or nut products into school. Please check all food packaging to ensure they are nut free. Your help and support in this matter is very much appreciated.

School Fund

Our school fund this year will be **£30** per family. This may be paid in full or alternatively the money may be sent to school in three instalments of **£10** per term with first instalment or full payment before **23rd of September**. Please ensure that the money is sent in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class clearly written on the outside and **SCHOOL FUND**.

Your support in this matter is much appreciated.

Gaelic Skills Coaching

The Gaelic skills coaching sessions will take place every Monday afternoon for all Key Stage 2 pupils. Please ensure that your child has their P.E. gear with them every Monday.

School Photographer

The school photographer from Tempest will visit the school on **Thursday 19th September 2019** to take an individual photograph of each pupil. Family group portraits will also be taken. Families with babies or pre-school children are welcome to come into school for a family group picture. Proofs will be sent home on Thursday and Friday. ***Please note there is no obligation to purchase the photographs.***

The photographer will begin with the family groups starting at 8.40 a.m. and finishing as close to 9.15 a.m. as possible.

Years 1, 4 and 7 class group photographs will be taken later in the school year.

Derry Post Photographer

The photographer will visit the school on Thursday 19th September 2019 to take a photograph of P1 and R1 pupils.

Year 7 Open Assembly

Parents of Year 7 pupils are invited to attend a bi-lingual assembly on 'The Rosary'. This will take place on Wednesday 2nd October in the school hall at 1.30 p.m.

Annual Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from 10th - 15th Oct. Parents may visit the book fair on Mon. 14th P1-P7 Tues 15th Oct. R1-R7 2.00 -3.00 p.m.

Maths Week Ireland

This will take place during the week beginning Monday 14th October. All classes will participate in fun maths games and activities both indoor and outdoor (weather permitting).

Key Stage 2 pupils will take part in a '24 game' competition. Check the website for more details in the coming weeks.

Flu Immunisation Programme 2019

School nursing staff will visit the school on Tuesday 22nd October 2019 to administer the flu vaccine.

Once a Week, Take a Peek!

Please remember to check your child's hair for head lice every week.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October 2019. School will finish at 12 noon for all pupils on these dates to facilitate the meetings between 12 noon and 3.00 p.m.

Safe Guarding Team

Mrs P. Mc Master (Principal)

Mr. J. Donnelly (Chairman Board of Governors)

Mrs G. Mc Kenna (Designated Governor for Child Protection)

Mrs. C O' Loughlin (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)

Mrs. L Convery (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)

If you have a concern about any aspect of Child Protection do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Clare O' Loughlin or Mrs Leisa Convery.

Administration of Medication in school

If a child requires medication in school their parent or guardian **must** complete a school **Administration of Medication form or a Request for a pupil to carry his/her Medication.** These forms are available to download from our website or can be requested from the school office. An adult should leave the medication with the secretary in the school office. Please remember, if your child requires an inhaler (or any other type of medication) it is your responsibility to ensure there is an adequate supply in school and that it is in date. Please remember, school staff can only administer in accordance to prescribed instructions or instructions from a GP or Care Plan.

School Attendance HIGH IMPORTANCE

It is very important that our pupils attend school every day. Each day absent from school represents a day of lost learning. We understand that occasionally a child may be ill and not able to attend school. Each month we closely monitor the attendance of all children. If attendance falls below 85% we will draw your attention to this matter.

If your child is absent from school, please ring the school office and leave a message to explain the absence and follow this up with a written explanation on the child's return to school.

Thank you for your help with our 'settling in' arrangements. Your support is very much appreciated.