



St. Mary's Gortnaghey Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers,

27/06/24

We have made it to the end of a very busy summer term at St. Mary's Gortnaghey!

I know all the staff would agree that there has been no such thing as a "wind down" going on over here. We have been busy in the middle of a massive clear out and re-organisation of all our school resources. The classrooms are going to be beautiful, clutter free spaces in September!

I'd like to say an enormous thank you to the staff who all stepped in and shared my workload when I was off this year. Mrs Walsh did a tremendous job of Acting Principal and I am so grateful. All the teachers, classroom assistants and support staff are such a fantastic team and our school really is such a happy place to work. It has been fabulous to be back and it has done me the world of good. Focusing on the boys and girls has brought me so much joy. I don't undervalue how important it is to have such supportive parents and a Governing Body, especially Julie McCullagh our Chair of Governors. Thank you all.

Goodbyes

This week, we say goodbye to a few members of staff. Mr O'Kane has taught in our school since January 2020. He has made such a difference to the pupils and we have so lucky to have had him as a member of staff. Mr Dillon has been a student teacher in P3 and P4 this term and has successfully completed his PGCE. Congratulations! Miss O'Neill started her final placement with P5, P6 and P7 and although has been off on sick leave, her prior achievements have led to her being awarded her PGCE. We are delighted and it is so thoroughly deserved. We wish her will with her recovery. We wish them all well in every future success and know they will never be strangers to our school.

Job Vacancies

In the coming weeks, there will be two classroom assistant vacancies advertised on the EA website. Please spread the word – they will be shared on social media when live.

Tomorrow, pupils can wear their school PE Kit. They will not need a school bag nor lunch bags as school closes at 11am. Any children who do not attend tomorrow, will still be marked present.

All pupils **except Primary Two** return to school on Monday 2nd September. Primary Two will have their first day back on Tuesday 3rd September – see term dates below.

We want to wish all families a happy and safe summer holiday. Take care and God Bless.

Kind regards,

Mary Jackson

Principal

St Mary's Gortnaghey Primary School TERM DATES 2024-2025	
Monday 2nd September	Beginning of term for P1, P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7. P2 pupils not in school on this day.
Tuesday 3rd September	Beginning of term for P2. P1 pupils not in school on this day.

Wednesday 4th September	All pupils in school
Monday 28th October – 1st November	School closed for Hallowe'en Break
Monday 23rd December – 3rd January	School closes at 11am on Friday 20th Dec for Christmas Holiday
Monday 10th February – Friday 14th February	School closed for February half term
Monday 17th March -Tuesday 18th March	School closed for St. Patrick's Day holiday
Friday 18th April -Friday 25th April	School closes at 11am on Holy Thursday (17th April)
Monday 5th May	School closed for May Bank Holiday
Monday 26th May	School closed for May Bank Holiday
Friday 27th June	School closes at 11am for summer holiday