

Principal:

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SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome back everyone to another new School Year. We hope you all had a very relaxed, enjoyable summer and made the most of the beautiful sunshine we had this summer.

We give a very special welcome to our new pupils:

P.1 - Áeda Boyle, Jacob Breen, James Collins, Liam Collins, Jenson Connolly, Hugh Creevy, Orla Dunne, Ruan Flanagan, Áine Kavanagh, Eimear Leonard, Roisin Leonard, Lennox Lyons, Finn McAloon, Lorcan McAloon, Jayden Mc Cusker, Órlaith McDaid, Conall McManus, Órlaith McManus, Reece Potter, Cillian Prunty, Mára Reihill, Donnacha Traynor and Jake Trimlin
We wish you all much happiness on your journey through the classes in St. Mary's Primary School.

CLASS ARRANGMENTS FOR 2022-2023

P.1 - Mrs. O Hanlon / Miss Pearson (Fri)

P.2 - Mrs Mohan

P.3 - Mrs King

P.4 - Ms Gordon. / Miss Pearson (Wed)

P.5 - Miss Cadden

P.6 - Miss Maguire

P.7 - Mr. Prunty / Miss Pearson (Mon & Tues)

Miss Chloe Pearson - P.6 & 7 - Monday and Tuesday Principal Release. P.4 - Wednesday SENCo.

P.1 - Friday.

Fundraiser

On behalf of the whole school community we would like to sincerely thank James and Áine's Dad, Mark Kavanagh for his brilliant fundraising efforts during the summer in the cycling event Chase The Sun. Mark raised £900 for school funds and we would like to thank all those people who supported the event.

School Website

I would ask all parents especially new parents to go to our school website using their phone www.stmarysmaguirebridge.com

click 'Download App' banner at the very top and follow the prompts.

Once the app has downloaded click Find School, Fermanagh and St Mary's Primary Maguiresbridge.

Please ensure you have enabled notifications for the app within your device settings. If you need any help/support click the '?' within the app.

Children's Mass

Canon Jimmy has invited us to participate in our first monthly Children's Mass of the new school year on Saturday 7th October at 6pm in St. Mary's Church Maguiresbridge. The P.7 children will lead the liturgy, P.5 & 6 children will participate in the choir, P.1-P.3 children will be invited to the altar to show their work from their Grow In Love books and P.4 will bring their Holy Communion Candle.

Campbell's Chemist Maguiresbridge

We would like to thank Declan Campbell of Campbell's chemist Maguiresbridge for his kind donation of a First Aid pack to the school.

School Building Minor Works

We are delighted to report our **Department for Infrastructure Living Places and Spaces Funded** eco-friendly Bike Shed is now in place. The Bike Shed has been built with recycled metal from crash barriers, re-used paving stones, recycled hard core, water butt and eco-grassed roof. The size of Bike Shed will allow us to use it for multi-purposes including bus shelter and outdoor classroom.

School Photographer

The School Photographer will visit the school on Monday the 9th of October. This is the only visit the photographer will make to the school this academic year. Please let the school office know if you want a family photograph so that we can arrange appropriate timings.

Musical Pathways

We are delighted to report that the P.1-4 children will take part in the fantastic music programme of Musical Pathways weekly on Wednesday mornings. The cost of the programme is £10 per child per term. The programme begins on Wednesday 6th September.

School Closures

The school will be closed for pupils on Monday the 2nd of October for Staff Development.

Texting Service

It is very important that the school has your up to date mobile number. If you have changed your mobile number, please inform the office as soon as possible.

School Times

The School day begins with class at **9.10am**, please ensure your child is in school before this time. Children should not arrive at school before **8.45am**. **Break Time** is from **10.45am - 11am** and **11 - 11.15am**. **Lunch** is from **12.30 to 1.15pm**. The school day ends at **2pm** for P.2's (& P.1's normally) and **3pm** for P3-7.

Uniform

We would like to praise all parents in their efforts to have their children so wonderfully attired in their school uniform, they look great. I would also like to thank parents for ensuring their children are **wearing black shoes**. However, having listened to the children, we are happy to allow the children to **wear black trainers** but **they must be black, no flashy lines, lights, stars etc**. **Please ensure your child's uniform including spare uniforms are clearly labelled.**

Cycle to School Week

To celebrate the opening of our new Eco friendly bike shed funded by the **Department for Infrastructure Living Places and Spaces Funded** we are encouraging families to take part in our Cycle to School Week from Monday 25 - Friday 29 September 2023. It is a great opportunity for families to save money, get healthier and protect the environment, as well as having lots of fun on the journey to school.

Absences

If your child is absent, please contact the school on the first morning of absence. It is also important that your child brings in a signed note to explain their absence on their return to school. Please take note that if a child is required to leave early or start later for a specific reason an explanation is required and teachers are required to record this absence.

Pantomime Trip

The P.3 - P7 children will be travelling to the Opera House in Belfast to see 'Snow White' in Pantomime on **Thursday 8th December**. On the same day or shortly afterwards the P.1 & P.2 children will go to the cinema in Enniskillen. The cost of the panto trip per pupil is £20, to be paid in the office by the first week in November.

School Council /Eco Council

During the month of September P.2-7 classes will be holding elections for the School Council and Eco Council.

Music Tuition

Music Tuition for P5-P7 with Mrs Mc Aleer will begin on Thursday the 7th of September.

School Meals

School Meals cost **£2.60** per day or **£13** per week **to be paid at the beginning of the week please.**

Please access the menu on the school website. The kitchen has advised us that, week beginning the 4th of September starts at week 3 on the menu.

Free School Meals

If you think you are eligible for Free School Meals, please ensure you complete an application form which is available from the school office or the EA website. Even if your child does not take dinners or only occasionally it is important for our DE funding that all children eligible to receive Free School Meals are registered to do so.

After School Club

Homework Club: for P.7 pupils on Tuesdays and Thursdays, commencing Tuesday 5th September from 3pm to 4:30pm. **This club is only for those children who intend to do the Transfer Test.**

If you are parent of a child who is doing the transfer test and you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Prunty

Rugby Sessions

Enniskillen Rugby Club are providing a 4 week taster session for children in P.1/2/6/7 on Mondays during September beginning on Monday 11th of September. We will continue with children wearing in PE gear on the days they have PE. All classes will have PE on Friday.

I would ask children to bring in football boots or spare trainers and socks as we hope to use the grass pitch as much as possible. Always bring a coat to school.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is running from 8am - 8.45am in the dining hall, costing £2 per child with siblings included on a reduced cost. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the school office

Foundation Fun (from 2pm -3pm)

Foundation Fun will commence on **Monday 4th September** for P.2 children and **Monday 11th September** for all P.1 and P.2 pupils. For all children the cost is **£2 per child per day**. Any profit made from this after school provision will be specifically used to purchase resources for the Foundation Stage.

Parent Teacher Meetings

We would like to inform parents at this early stage that Parent Teaching Meetings will take place in a blended way again this year i.e Face to Face or phone if preferred, after school during the weeks commencing **16th October**. Teachers will send out a note at the beginning of October detailing the exact time of your meeting, teachers will be flexible to change however we would ask you to try your best to keep the appointment you are given.

We are a healthy Eating School so please remember the children should have no crisps, chocolate, sweets etc. Check on the school website for the Healthy Eating Policy or speak to Rita or your class teacher. Do not send in food which contains nuts.

