



St. Ronan's Primary and Nursery School

September 2019 Newsletter

A digital copy of this newsletter can be accessed at www.stronansps.com

Welcome back – We welcome all children back to school. We trust everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday and looking forward to the year ahead.

Nursery and P1 – We say a big hello and welcome to our 50 new Nursery pupils who are starting for the first time and also to our 43 P1 pupils who have come up to the primary school. We also welcome new pupils Bella Loughran and Dylan Shine.

Staff – We welcome back Mrs Torney who is covering for Mrs McGirr, Welcome back to Mr McArdle who is teaching P6/7 and to Mrs McManus (Classroom assistant). Welcome back and congratulations to Mrs Smith (formerly Miss Cassidy) who got married during the summer.

Closure – School will be closed on Friday 27th September.

Parish Mission – Pupils will be taking part in the Mission on Tuesday 10th September (Family evening) as part of the choir and leading a decade of the Rosary. In school there will be a special assembly led by a member of the Mission team. Children will be asked to complete some art for the Mission also.

Attendance – The school monitors attendance on a monthly basis. If your child is off, a call must be made on the first day of absence explaining the reason for absence. When the child returns to school a note must be sent in. The school is required by law to provide attendance data to the Education Welfare Office.

First bell in the morning is 9:05am. All children must be in place by 9:15am for the start of lessons. If children arrive between 9:15 and 9:30am they will be recorded as 'Late'. Beyond 9:30am they may be recorded as 'Absent' for the morning session.

Uniform – It is great to see full and correct uniform being worn by all pupils. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with child's name. Regulation uniform must be worn daily as per policy approved by the Board of Governors. A list of items was recorded on the June Newsletter.

Positive Behaviour – The school encourages behaviour of the highest standard. When behaviour falls below the expected standard, this can have a negative impact on the learning of a child and other children in the class. It causes disruption to learning which is unacceptable. In the days before school opened, the staff looked at our current Positive Behaviour Policy and made some amendments. The

policy will be placed on the school website and we welcome input from parents as to any additions, deletions or amendments to be made.

Intimate Care Policy – This policy will also be placed on the school website this week and again we welcome input from parents.

School Meals – The cost of school meals remains at £2.60 per day or £13 per week. If you think you can avail of free school meals and uniform allowance, please pick up a form in the school office or download from the Education Authority website. www.eani.org.uk If you chose not to take up free meals please return the form as the number of free meals has a positive impact on our school budget.

Early Morning class – for P7 pupils in Literacy and Numeracy will take place every Tuesday and Thursday beginning Tuesday 10th September at 8:30am.

Music – P3/4 will take part in Musical Pathways this year facilitated by the EA Music Service. P5 pupils will begin clarinet lessons on Monday afternoons. The cost of both classes will be free as the school will cover the cost. We ask that full participation of pupils is encouraged by parents to get as much from these programmes as possible.

Fermanagh Ladies - We wish the Fermanagh Ladies every success in the All-Ireland Junior Championship Final against Louth in Cooke Park on 15th September. Children may come to school next Friday 13th wearing Fermanagh jerseys or green and white clothes.

PTFA - AGM takes place on Wednesday 23rd October. All parents are invited to attend. More details in October Newsletter.

School and Eco-Councils – Elections to both councils will take place during September.

Milk – The cost of milk to Hallowe'en is £8. Please place in an envelope with your child's name, class and the amount enclosed.

Healthy eating - All parents are encouraged to send a healthy snack for break (Fruit, healthy sandwich, yogurt, vegetables). It is great to see so many children having a healthy break option. Fizzy drinks and chocolate / crisps should not be sent in to school.

The school is a nut free zone. Foods which contain nuts must not be sent into school. We will be formulating a Healthy Eating Policy this school year.

Illness – Children should not come to school if they are feeling unwell. This avoids unnecessary distress for children if they do not improve and need to go home. It also prevents the spreading of infections / viruses to other children. Parents need to be contactable at all times so that children can be collected if they are not well. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis also.

Medical Needs – In order that we are kept up to date with pupils having medical needs, we ask that parents contact the school in order to complete relevant paper work i.e. '*Consent to Dispense Medication*' and '*Action Plan for Students with a Medical Condition*'. Both forms are simple to complete and will only take a few minutes. If you want staff to administer medicine to your child, these forms must be completed. Please call into the school to complete these forms or request they are sent home.

Lisnaskea Feis – Entries must be paid by Friday 4th October with correct fee enclosed in an envelope together with child's name and events being entered.

Art - £1.50 (closing date for submission 17th October)
Verse Speaking - £2 (takes place on Sunday 20th October)
Handwriting - £1 (closing date for submission 17th October)
Own Poetry - £1 (closing date for submission 17th October)
Irish Poem and Conversation - £2 (takes place 19th October)

Copies of poems may be obtained from the school.

Facebook – Many people now follow our Facebook page with great interest. It has been a very effective method of communication and ensuring that we promote what goes on here at St. Ronan's. We use this as a means to show what is going on in school and for any messages / announcements.

Twitter – Our Twitter account is *@stronansprimary*. Please 'Follow' us and encourage others to also. Again this has become popular.

Access to school – Supervision begins every morning at 8:30am. Children must gather in the hall. The ICT Room is also supervised for children who wish to take Accelerated Reader quizzes or to complete Athletics tests.

Extra provision – A facility to allow P1 and P2 pupils remain in school until 3pm will commence shortly. Places will be strictly limited. Further information will be communicated soon.

Homework - Parents are encouraged to take an active role in homework. Reading will be a daily aspect of homework. Mathematics exercises can be completed online.

Arrival and collection from school - The school carpark is the only place allocated for children to be dropped off and collected from school. **Parents are reminded not to drive up to the main door or to park in the staff parking area. The practice of cars parking on the avenue up to the school will end. The school will not take responsibility for any incident which may happen between vehicles as a result of careless driving or parking.**