



Welcome back to St Mary's P.S. We are delighted to see everyone. The children are all well settled in and enjoying school. We are really looking forward to a great year.

A special welcome to all those children who have started with us this year. We are looking forward to getting to know you all.

Year One



Éabha, Cian, Seán, Micheál, Callum, Pearse, Tiernan, Georgia, Lee, Charlie, Ruaidhrí, Ella, Alice, Róise, Grace and Lilly.

School closings this term.

The school will be closed on Monday 25th September for staff training. The school will be closed on Monday 30th October, Tuesday 31st, Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd November for the Halloween Break.

Nut Allergy: We have three children with nut allergies in the school therefore we would ask parents not to send nuts or any nut-containing products into the school with children for snack or lunch. Thanks.

1. Morning Arrangements:

School starts at 9.10 a.m.

The waiting room will operate from 8.30 a.m as normal. All children in school before 9.00 a.m must go to the waiting room where they will be supervised until 9.00 a.m. They will then go to their classes and leave in their bags and can go out to play until 9.10 a.m. All children should be encouraged to come into the school themselves so as to aid independence. Parents should not be in the playground after 9 a.m.

2. Home-time Arrangements:

Year One children will go home as arranged for the next few weeks. Year One children may avail of our After-School from Tuesday 26th September.

Year Two children will go home at 2.10 p.m and can be collected from the side of the school as last year. After school club will begin on Thursday 1st September for Year 2 children.

Year Three-Seven will go home at 3.10 p.m. Children travelling home by car can be collected from the playground when the weather is fair and from the dining hall in poor weather. It is really important that the school knows who has permission to collect your child from the school.

3. Dinner

If you wish your child to take hot dinners , they will cost £2.60 per day. Dinner money must be paid at the beginning of the school week in line with EA Western Policy. All families will receive a meal menu and please feel free to choose whichever days suit your children. The menu is also available on the school web-site. Please place dinner money in an envelope with your child's name and class on it outlining the days on which dinner will be taken. Children are very welcome to bring their own healthy packed lunch with them to school also. If you are entitled to free school meals you must re-apply online every year. Thanks very much for your co-operation.

4. Snack

Children should bring a healthy snack to school for break.

5. Water

Children should bring a bottle of water to school, to drink throughout the day. A sport type lid is advisable.

6. Data Collection

Every child will receive a data collection form. Please check the information on the form and make any changes which are necessary, sign and return to school. Thanks.

7. Uniform

The school uniform remains as last year, a school polo shirt and jumper/cardigan. Navy skirt / pinafore / trousers. Please put your child's name on all items of clothing so that they can be returned to them if lost. It is impossible to reunite owners with uniform pieces if they aren't labelled. Thanks.

8. Attendance

Children must attend school every day unless they are ill. Please let us know why your child is off school either via a telephone call or a note to the teacher. This is important for DENI records. Do please try to keep medical and dental appointments outside of school hours where possible. Thanks.

P.E

P.E with Core kids will take place on Mondays for all classes. Children can wear their P.E kit to school. Children should wear the school P.E kit -blue t-shirt, navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms and trainers.

Children will also have P.E on another day during the week, class teachers will let you know which day.

After-School Club

After-school club has already started for Year 2 children. Year 1 children may attend from Tuesday 26th September if you wish. The club runs from Monday - Friday from 2.10-3.10 p.m at a cost of £3.00 per day. Your child will receive a booking form and you can choose which days you wish your child to attend.

Homework

Children will have homework from Monday to Thursday, depending on their age and stage. Homework is a link between school and home and reinforces elements being taught in school. If your child is having any difficulty with their homework, please contact us as soon as possible. Please sign your child's homework diary.

Parental Contact

If you need to discuss anything with your child's teacher, please contact the school office and we can arrange for you to speak to their teacher.

Sponsored Exercise-A-Thon

This year as we continue to focus on Health and Well-Being, Core Kids will be coming to the school to deliver P.E sessions to all classes every Monday. They will cover a range of activities including Gymnastics, Dance, Athletics and Games Development. This comes at a cost to the school. In the past the school has been able to bear the cost but as you are aware all school budgets have been slashed this year, so rather than asking parents to pay for it, we are going to take part in a sponsored Exercise-A-Thon and the money raised will go towards paying for the Core Kids programme which the children love. We are having a sponsored Exercise-A-Thon with Gary from Core Kids, on Wednesday 27th September and he will take all classes for a workout and then bring everyone together for a final workout. It will be great fun and hopefully raise lots of money. All families will receive a sponsor form. We really appreciate all your support. Thanks.

(A form is attached)

