



# St Mary's Convent Primary School

Bunscóil Clochar Mhuire  
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## *Imlitir 2*

4th September 2023

A Chairde,

Well done to all the Junior Infants and new pupils who started in our school last week. We hope you feel welcome and comfortable and that you will enjoy your time here in St Mary's learning lots of new things and making lots of new friends.

**GDPR Walk:** Please ensure that you have returned the consent forms which were emailed last week. Please contact the office if you did not and the link can be sent to you again. Our annual GDPR Walk will be this Friday and without your consent, your child will not be able to participate. Last year, no one was disappointed and we hope that it will be the same again, this year. Thank you.

**Substitute Teachers:** You may be aware that there is a shortage of substitute teachers again this year. Please understand if I am unable to secure teachers and also if I have to employ more than one teacher to cover an absence.

**Jersey Day:** will be on Friday next September 8th. To coincide with the start of the Rugby World Cup, children will be invited to wear green or their own country colours. Donations of €2 or more will be accepted for our **Sports Fund**.

**School photographs** will be taken on September 22nd. Further details will be sent closer to the time.

### **Swimming**

Swimming is beginning on Thurs 14th Sept for 2nd - 6th classes. The lessons (Aquatics) are part of the PE programme and will run for 6 weeks. The cost is €32 for the six lessons and is payable online. A letter was sent last week with further details. For child protection purposes, parents/guardians may not enter the changing village but can assist their child with dressing if need be, by taking them into the separate changing area.

Ms O'Brien

**Backpack Programme:** This is a wellbeing programme for adults. It starts on September 20th and runs for 10 weeks. Please contact the office if you would like a brochure with more details.

**Ukulele classes** restart on Monday next September 11th. The cost was included on the booklists sent out in June. Also sent were the details regarding instrument rental. If you overlooked the payment for the year's lessons, please contact the office and we can make arrangements. A reminder email with the payment link was sent last Friday.

### **Homework Club**

St Mary's Primary School will run a Homework Club this year in room 26, beginning on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. It will be aimed at children from 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class. It will be run by qualified teachers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 2:50-3:50 pm. The children can be collected at the exit door nearest the Summerhill gate each afternoon.

#### **The homework club will:**

- Provide a supervised environment in which students can spend time at their homework.
- Students are encouraged to bring a light snack and drink. Time will be allocated for students to relax and eat/drink prior to starting their homework.
- Students will be encouraged and supported to do their homework to the best of their ability.
- The teacher will check spellings and tables with all children.
- Students that finish their homework early can engage in activities such as reading, art, playdough and puzzles.
- The final responsibility for checking the homework and reading rests with the parents.

**Please see attached booking form with more details.**

#### **Message from Senior Infant Teachers**

*We, the teachers in Senior Infants, are looking for donations of toys (in good condition) to be used during Aistear Play Time in school. Themes we will be covering include the following - The Farm, People Who Help Us , Food, Shopping , Holidays and Transport. Any toys, dress up outfits, books, jigsaws etc. relevant to these themes would be gratefully received. Please send them to Room 5 in the school or we can also collect them from the school foyer.*

*Many Thanks,*

*Senior Infant Teachers*

**Please ensure that your child's name is on his/her jacket and other items of clothing.**

**Aladdin Connect:** This is the app used by the school to communicate with parents/guardians. It is also used by teachers to communicate and give you access to your child's details. Please contact the office if you are unable to avail of it and they will send you the details.

**D.T News:** Welcome to all students who are beginning their journey in the Computer Room. This week we will talk about Internet Safety with all classes. The emphasis being on 'What is the Internet', 'Who can I trust online' and 'Cyberbullying'. We will be using a program called Webwise which has some great information for both schools and parents. You can access Webwise by clicking on the following link: [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)

Debby Walsh

Finally, McCabe's Pharmacy have contacted us regarding the administration onsite of a free flu vaccination, by nasal spray, for our pupils up to the age of twelve. Consent forms will be issued about 10-14 days prior to the vaccination date.

Mise le meas

Cóilín Ó Coigligh P.O.

[Community News](#)

[Green News](#)

**Nathanna na Seachtaine:** **Conas atá tú?** How are you? **Tá mé go maith.** I am well.

**Seanfhocal na Míosa:** **Tús maith, leath na hoibre** (A good start is half the battle)

## Green News



This week we celebrate the feast day of St Teresa of Calcutta, who was canonised seven years ago. One of her quotes was,

*“NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS. BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE.”*

Let us take a leaf out of Saint Teresa of Calcutta’s book. If each of us tries to make a few small changes, together we can make a world of difference.

Let’s watch how much food we waste and try to reduce this, being mindful of those in the world who go hungry everyday.

We can try to recycle and reuse materials through our recycling centres or by being creative about how we can reuse items ourselves.

We can walk and cycle more to reduce carbon emissions and keep our air clean.

These are only a few simple ideas to start with.

WOW will start on Wednesday, September 6th Meet up at Gullivers at 8:50 am.

COW will start next week September 13th. More details about this later.

***Remember Green is cool at home and at school***

# St Mary's Parents' Association

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysparentsassoc/>

*A very warm welcome back to all student's. We hope you all had a lovely summer and we are looking forward to another productive year for the Parents Association. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details of our first coffee morning.*

Caroline Smith,  
Chairperson.

## Community Notices

### Boyneside Speech & Drama Classes

Focusing on improving students' confidence, pronunciation, conversation and public speaking skills will resume after school in Breathe Pilates Studio, Patrick Street, Trim on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th September for children from senior infants - 6th Class.

Tel 087-2201981 or email: [dorscully@gmail.com](mailto:dorscully@gmail.com)

Dorothy Scully L.L.S.M.

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