



St Mary's Convent Primary School

Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire
Trim, Co. Meath. C15WF98

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Príomh Oide: Fergal Kelly M.Ed. Leadership & Management

Leas Phríomh Oide: Siobhán Nally M.Ed.

Uimhir Rolla: 16646 O

Imlitir 1

11 September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Start of school year: By now the children are starting to get used to the routines of school and everyone has settled back very well. I would like to once again welcome you all back to the school and extend a special word of welcome to all the children and their families who are new to the school and indeed to Trim.

Junior Infants: A tremendous welcome to our new Junior Infants who by all appearances have settled in extremely well already. We wish them well during their time in the school and parents can take an active part in the school during their time here. Junior Infants will commence their full day on Thursday 12th September-1:50 pm collection.

New Class: It is great to see our new pupils in our new ASD class attend the school. While we are still awaiting resources from the Department of Education, we felt it was really important that the children start school and get into the ways of school as soon as possible. We will inform you later of fundraising that we are planning so that we can always provide the best possible conditions for all our children. Thanks in particular to the staff of the special class who are also adjusting to new routines and timetables. We also welcome our new pupils to our existing language classes and mixed class. St Mary's has four classes that cater for complex needs.

Car Park: The car park and environs are always very busy in the mornings and afternoons. Please ensure that you remind your children about road safety as they negotiate their way to school by car, bike or by foot. Please ensure the children use the (relatively new) footpath at the Summerhill gate end to access the school yard.

Punctuality: The bell goes each morning at 9.10am. It is extremely important that the children are ready to line up at this time each day. The school gates will be open from 8.50am to receive pupils but we would discourage the practice of children being in the school at a very early time as there is no supervision available. It is great to see children being independent and going to their lines freely.

School Buildings: The renovation of the Junior infant classrooms has met with huge enthusiasm from staff, parents and children alike. The rooms are brighter, easier to clean and are much more suited to the thrills and spills of a typical junior classroom. Thank you to the teachers, and SNAS who contributed in any way to the project of ensuring that the classrooms were ready at the end of August. There was a lot of feverish activity and burning the candle at both ends to ensure that we were ready for the pupils. My appreciation to those who worked long hours to ensure that all was in place. The school also updated its alarm systems, security infrastructure, external areas and foyer area to continue to improve the school for its staff and pupils. The gates that were installed towards the latter half of the school year are now showing their worth as we feel very secure at break times when we know everyone is in a safe place. The board of management has committed significant financial resources towards these changes and we are very grateful that the board understand the need to always make improvements for staff and pupils.

Nut allergy: We have some children with nut allergies in classes throughout the school. We would ask parents even from other classes to avoid giving their children lunches or foods with nut products in them. Even touching another child who has ingested nut products and who has traces on their hands or skin could cause a reaction. I ask parents to be vigilant on this for the coming year.

Wet Mornings: On wet mornings children will be admitted into the school buildings from 8.50 am provided that at least two members of staff are present. For health, safety and insurance reasons it is not permissible for children to enter the school before this time. We open the entrance to the school on the St. Michael's end to ensure that children can enter the school quickly and staff are on hand for any child not sure of the way to their room.

Mobile Phones: Use of mobile phones is not permitted in the school. There are concerns that smartphone use among primary school children increases the risk of cyberbullying and exposure to undesirable content and also reduces the number of hours they sleep at night. Our policy is in line with the recent announcements from Minister of Education Norma Foley on the overuse of phones. Should your child wish to make a call home, this can be facilitated through the office.

Stay Safe – Friendship Week will be in September- dates to be confirmed. We like to start the Friendship programmes Zippy in Senior Infants/ First Class and Friends for Life in Fifth Class.

Phone Numbers: It has come to our attention that some phone numbers on school records are no longer in use. Please make sure the school has updated phone numbers and addresses. Should you need to be contacted urgently it is essential that these updated details are provided.

Tusla Returns: The school is obliged to report all absences of 20 days or more to the National Education Welfare Board. It is therefore of vital importance that all absences are accounted for in the spaces provided for in the back of the homework journal. You will be informed if and when your child is absent for 15 days that he/she is nearing the reporting point. Teachers advise the Principal should continuous absences give cause for concern. I am particularly concerned that a large cohort of children miss more than 20 days and therefore have to be reported to the National Welfare Board. I will be meeting with parents over the next few weeks and months to try and alleviate this problem as the same children are being affected year after year and they are missing a vital part of their education. Regulations from the Dept of Education mean that a child who has missed 20 consecutive days will be taken off the roll.

Homework: Soon the children will be getting used to the good habits of homework and learning. The learning aspects of homework are equally as important as the written tasks. Please check this regularly and communicate with the teacher using the homework journal.

A newsletter is prepared periodically. If you wish to have any information included please contact the office. It takes a few weeks for children to get used to our new classes, the routine of school and homework but in a few weeks this will become second nature to us all.

I look forward to working with you and your children again during the coming school year. It is a wonderful school where there is always something happening and it is great to be part of the new developments and exciting times.

Yours sincerely,



Fergal Kelly

Príomhoide

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Some parents have been enquiring about the hot school lunches. Hopefully this programme will be up and running soon. Due to the size of the contract with the supplier, the school in conjunction with St Michael's next door had to undergo a long procurement process to ensure that there was absolute transparency on the awarding of the contract which was just completed in August. Some smaller schools with lower budgets than us would not have had the same level of processes in terms of appointing a supplier, hence they would have been able to start earlier. The next stage for us after procurement was the installation of infrastructure to facilitate the school meals. The successful supplier Glanmore Foods are currently working on the installation of three large ovens in our servery area so as to provide a hub for school meals. This required complex adjustments to our electrical and mechanical facilities.

Operators are also currently being employed to serve the meals and these operators must comply with Children First vetting procedures which is in train at the moment but takes time. Once all is in order and ready you will receive notification of the starting date and Glanmore Foods will be in contact through their app which we will send you details of. I should say that we are happy with the proposed menus and offerings that Glanmore Foods provide and we look forward to working with them over the next year.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school calendar is available and a copy has been sent out to all families. Important dates for the moment to note are Halloween mid-term break – school closed Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November inclusive. Christmas - school closed 23rd December. Reopening Monday 6th January 2025.

Féilire 2024 / 2025
Bunscoil Clochar Mhuire Áth Troim
St Mary's Primary School Trim
Fón: 046 943 1127 or 046 943 1919
Riomphost: office@stmarystrim.ie
www.stmarystrim.ie
Príomhoide: Fergal Kelly M.Ed
Leas Phríomhoide: Stobhán Nally M.Ed.

TRIM HARDWARE & DIY
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ACTIVE SCHOOL
Awarded June 2016, 2022

DIGITAL SCHOOLS
Awarded June 2019, 2022

September <i>Méan Fómhair</i>							October <i>Deireadh Fómhair</i>							November <i>Samhain</i>							December <i>Mí na Nollag</i>							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
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29	30																											

January <i>Eanáir</i>							February <i>Feabhra</i>							March <i>Márta</i>							April <i>Aibreán</i>									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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May <i>Bealtaine</i>							June <i>Meitheamh</i>						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

In the event of heavy snowfall this winter you will receive a text from the school with arrangements.

SCHOOL CLOSURES		
HALLOWEEN BREAK Oct 28th - Nov 1st 2024	ST. Patrick's Day Mar 17th 2025	JUNE BREAK May 30th + June 2nd 2025
CHRISTMAS BREAK Dec 23rd - Jan 3rd 2025	EASTER BREAK April 14th - 25th 2025	
FEB BREAK Feb 3rd - 17th - 21st 2025	MAY BREAK May 5th 2025	

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 29th Aug TBC	Return to School
4th - 6th June 27th June	Confirmation Day/Communion Day Active School / Wellbeing Week Last day of school

Thank you TRIM HARDWARE for sponsoring this year's school calendar

SCHOOL NEWS

UKULELE FOR 4TH TO 6TH CLASS

Stephen Fagan from Music Generation starts ukulele classes next **Monday 9th September**.

If children would like to buy their own ukulele, we have them for sale from the school. The cost is €50 .

If a child rents one from the school and pays rental for 2 years , they can keep the ukulele once the rental is paid.

€ 25 - Classes only per year (all students expected to pay this)

€ 50 - Classes and rental for one year

€ 75 - Classes for one year and buy ukulele

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club started on Monday 2nd September and will continue until 24th October, halloween break. It will run from 2.50-3.30pm. Children are allowed to wait until 4.00pm if they have siblings doing homework club in St Michael's.

Cost is around €5 a day and will depend on how many days you do.

If you would still like to enroll your child please pick up a form in the office. Advance payment is needed for insurance purposes.

Ms. Carr

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

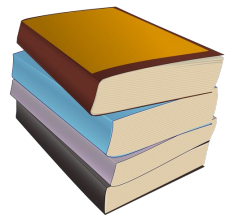
Please note the following details relating to the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Parish of Trim & Boardsmill:

Confirmation Day - Friday, 31st January 2025 in St Patrick's Church, Trim (no time is available at the moment)

Confirmation Meeting for Parents - Tuesday, 1st October 2024 in St Patrick's Church, Trim at 6.30pm

First Mass of Preparation for Confirmation - Sunday, 13th October 2024 (no time is available at the moment)

Mr Galligan and Ms Mallon



THE IMPORTANCE OF READING

Reading is an essential skill for your child's progress. It is really important to read with your child daily because it impacts all subjects. This builds on your child's confidence and ability to read fluently.

Trim has a wonderful resource in the town library. It would be great to see more children availing of the service. You would be amazed by all the fun activities that they offer including their new Sensory area.

<https://www.meath.ie/amenities/community-facilities/trim-library>



SCHOOL FOOTBALL

The teachers are eagerly assessing the girls panels for the football league that lies ahead. A reminder that a gumshield is needed for training and all GAA games. Best of luck to everyone involved.

IRISH DANCING

Irish Dancing classes will resume in St. Patrick's Hall, Trim on Tuesday afternoons, beginning on the 10th of September at 2.00pm until 4.00pm.

Children can be collected from St. Mary's school for the class. Children of all levels are welcome from beginners to more experienced dancers. Children from the age of 4 may attend.

New members are welcome.

If your child finishes school at 1.50pm and they are interested in starting to dance please get in touch on the number below and if there is sufficient interest we will begin a class from 1.50-2.50pm.

Should you have any questions or wish to register interest in the 1.50pm class, please contact Ann Carney (TCRG) on 0876336495. Thank you.

SWIMMING 2nd - 4th Class

Aquatics for this school year will begin on **Thursday 19th September and will continue on September 26th, October 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th.**

Under the Revised Curriculum, Aquatics is compulsory. All pupils from all classes are required to participate, unless certified by a doctor not to do so.

Senior classes will be timetabled later in the year due to clashes with other sports etc.

TRIM ATHLETIC CLUB

For children interested in joining please fill in the form.

<https://forms.gle/23buc8mHHgHhFTmN8>



Money Club starts back next week, Tuesday 17th September at 12:15pm. Looking forward to seeing all the Super Savers again this year. - Sharon

IMPORTANT DATES

First Holy Communion: Saturday May 24, 2025 2:00pm

Confirmation Day: Friday January 31 (Time to be finalised)

Nath na Seachtaine: Cé tusa? Is mise nó (..... is ainm dom) Who are you? I am or (..... my name is)

Go raibh maith agat! Thank you.

Seanfhocal na Míosa: Tús maith, leath na hoibre A good start is half the work

GREEN NEWS



Welcome back to all! Hope everyone had a wonderfully green summer and remembered all the green tips we learned as part of the Green Flag programme. This year's Green School's theme is Food and Biodiversity. We will have more details soon. We have great plans! Ms Patricia and her little gardeners are already preparing for what's ahead!



One of Maggie's creations



Clearing out the planting boxes and relocating bulbs!



Keep thinking green and remember to save the planet. Is féidir linn agus ba chóir dúinn!

Green is cool at home and at school!

Parents Association

PARENTS ASSOCIATION AGM

Welcome back to St Mary's! We hope you all had a wonderful summer and that everyone has settled in to school.

The Parents Association will be holding their **AGM on Monday 16 th September at 19:00** in the school Staff Room. Anyone is welcome to attend. We will be forming a committee and selecting officers at this meeting, so if you have any interest in being on the committee please join us at the meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Adri O'Dea
Chairperson

Memory Lane
p h o t o g r a p h y

For Lifes Little Memories

Photography Day

Will be held on:

**ON FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER
FOR JUNIOR INFANTS, 1ST
CLASS AND 6TH CLASS ONLY**

Photography Day

Royal Taekwon-Do

With a new school year just around the corner are you looking for a new activity for your child, teen or even yourself....why not try Royal Taekwon-Do.

Meaths newest Taekwon-Do school is open for their second year commencing Thursday 29th August 2024.

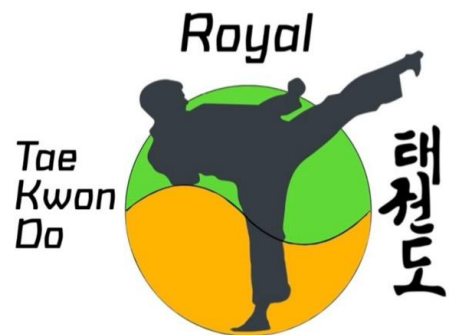
Classes are suitable for ages 5 years to Adults and classes take place Tuesdays and Thursdays in St Mary's Convent Primary School, Patrick Street, Trim, Co Meath.

Contact Details:

Email - info@royaltkd.ie

Telephone/whatsapp - 085-1526218

Facebook Messenger



Boyneside Speech & Drama

Classes take place in Breathe Pilates Studio, Patrick Street, Trim, starting on **Tuesday 3rd September** for students from senior infants to 6th class.

Encourage your child to become a self-confident, assertive and competent communicator. Our programme includes:

- Learning through mime and movement
- Situation drama
- Poetry
- Characterisation
- Public speaking
- Storytelling

Students will have the opportunity to take graded exams with the Leinster School of Music and Drama.

087 220 1981

DORSCULLY@GMAIL.COM



GROUP PIANO LESSONS

With Clare: An Experienced Piano
& Primary School Teacher

Tuesdays in Gaelscoil na Bóinne

15:20-16:00

Ages 7-12

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more info*

Limited spaces available

 Anne Maher
School of Ballet

Does your child love to
dance?

Join us at Anne Maher
School of Ballet where
experienced, dedicated,
passionate teachers
will share their love of
ballet with you.

Monday - Trim

Diocesan Hall, Trim

For registration and more
information see
annemaherschoolofballet.ie

email amahersob@gmail.com



Trim Youth Club



trimyouthclub@hotmail.com



Thursdays
19:00 - 21:00

Navan Gate, Trim (beside the Stile)

New volunteers welcome & full training is provided
All volunteers are fully Garda vetted

Affiliated to Youth Work Ireland Meath
youthworkirelandmeath.ie

For 12-17
year olds



SONG DANCE DRAMA MAKE FRIENDS BUILD CONFIDENCE
EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

CLASSES FOR 5 - 12 YEAR OLDS

SATURDAYS 12:00 - 1:30PM

3 TERMS STARTING 14TH SEPTEMBER

€150 PER TERM

To Register or for more information
Call Debby on 0868504066 or email
stagecrafttrim@gmail.com