

St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Mrs Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H.

Junior School
Newtownkennedy St. Site
Strabane
Co.Tyrone
BT82 8HT
Phone:02871382272
Fax:02871 382139



Senior School
Barrack St. Site
Strabane
Co. Tyrone
BT82 8HE
Phone: 02871 382614
Fax: 02871 382482

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net
www.stcatherinesps.co.uk

12-10-20

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to inform you that our Music Tuition, Vocal Programme and Musical Pathways for Learning are going to resume again for various children and classes. These are very difficult times and understandably people are worried about social distancing, and health and safety with regards to Covid 19.

We would like to reassure you that all appropriate Risk Assessments are in place and we have taken all precautions necessary to ensure that our children will be safe within their bubble groups, with each child only taking part in the lessons with members of their own class. Children will be escorted to / from the lesson by school staff.

In the Senior site, tutors for the teaching of Brass, Strings and the Vocal Programme will adhere to rules and guidance from the Education authority and the PHA. The timetable for Music Tuition from the Education Authority is as below ;

Music Tuition	Tutor	Start Date	Time
Strings (small bubble groups only)	Ms Edel Strawbridge	Monday 2 nd November	Monday (am)
Brass (small bubble groups only)	Mr. Derek Mc Gillion	Monday 2 nd November	Monday (pm)
Musical Pathways (for Nursery Pupils) (Individual Class bubble groups only)	Ms Una Carlin	Friday 16th October	Friday (am)
Vocal Lessons (small bubble groups only)	Ms Una Carlin	Friday 16th October	Friday



Eco Flag Award Winner 2016



Gold Award Winner 2016

Musical Pathways (for Years 1 and 2 Pupils) Individual Class bubble groups only)	Ms Una Carlin	Thursday 15th October	Thursday (am and pm)
--	---------------	--------------------------	-------------------------

All tutors have a rigid timetable to ensure that one set of children will have left the room and are safely back in class before the next group comes to the hall. This will ensure that the safety of each group is not compromised. They will teach the children how important it is **not** to share instruments, how to clean and store their instruments and will follow strict guidelines for social distancing.

The vocal programme tutor (Miss Una) will take vocal lessons in the Senior School Assembly Hall also in very small bubble groups, socially distanced. All safety precautions will be in place as per guidelines.

Miss Una is also raring to go with her Musical Pathways for Learning and can't wait to be back in St. Catherine's! Sessions for Year 1 and Year 2 children will be conducted in the Junior site all day Thursday. Musical Pathways for Learning for Nursery children will take place in the Senior assembly on Friday mornings.

Music is at the heart of St. Catherine's and we have been so disappointed to have had past plans shattered with regards to the cancellation of our Senior school musical and the Feis this year due to Covid 19.

We are all looking forward to starting up and giving our children this excellent opportunity to come alive again *'with the sound of music'* in our school. Research shows that the promotion of music is therapeutic for children and even enhances their learning by focusing on sound, beat, rhythm, timing etc. We feel that it is important to give our little children this very valuable opportunity.

I hope this letter will alleviate some fears that you as parents may have and at the same time give a sense of excitement for going forward. If, however anyone has any concerns whatsoever about the return of Music Services to our school, please feel free to contact myself by email (Mrs D Doherty ddoherty115@c2kni.net or Mrs Wilders bwilders592@c2kni.net) or you can ring our school on 02871382272 between 9am and 3pm so that we can reassure you of the steps we have taken to follow Education Authority and Public Health Agency Guidelines.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

God bless, take care and stay safe,
Mrs Dolores Doherty –Music leader



Eco Flag Award Winner 2016



Gold Award Winner 2016