

St Mary's Primary School
Rosscarbery



St. Mary's Primary School
Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire

Staff:

Sarah O' Brien (Principal and SET)

Jennifer Fitzgerald (Acting Deputy Principal & Class Teacher)

Colette Huethorst (Class Teacher)

Catherine Tobin and Orla Hume (Class Teachers)

Marie Sheehan (Class Teacher)

Cora Murphy (Class Teacher)

Noreen O' Donovan and Marguerite Dillon (SNAs)

Teresa Fehily (SNA)

Eileen Callanan (Secretary)

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www.stmarysross.com

School Hours:

Pupils are supervised from 8.50am in the school yard and on wet days, they are supervised in Room 4.

Assembly is at 9.00am sharp.

Junior and Senior Infants:	9.00am – 1.45pm
All other classes:	9.00am – 2.45pm
Sos Beag	10.45am – 11.00am
Sos Mór	12.30pm - 1.00pm

Electronic Roll Book is completed by 10.30am each day.



Supervision

Provided from 8.50am – school is not open to receive pupils before this time. Assembly is at 9am.

Each teacher has designated supervision time for morning and lunch breaks – SNAs are also in the school yard.



Uniform:

Girls:

- ✓ Grey pinafore/skirt/trousers
- ✓ White blouse
- ✓ Red cardigan and red tie
- ✓ Optional white polo-neck in winter
- ✓ Optional white polo shirt in summer
- ✓ *Optional Black shorts in summer (only available in Cash's Clonakilty)
- ✓ Black or grey tights/ white socks in summer
- ✓ Black shoes or boots

Boys

- ✓ Grey trousers
- ✓ White shirt
- ✓ Grey V-neck jumper and red tie
- ✓ Optional white polo-neck in winter
- ✓ Optional white polo shirt in summer
- ✓ *Optional Black shorts in summer (only available in cash's Clonakilty)
- ✓ Black shoes or boots

*The designated school shorts can be worn in May, June and September.

School Tracksuit

Grey tracksuit with school name – available in Cash's in Clonakilty for both boys and girls.

Each classroom has a designated P.E. day – tracksuit is worn on this day.

Spare Clothes

Please hand in a bag with a complete change of clothes (not the school uniform) and include underwear and socks for your child with his/her name on the bag and on all the clothes.

NB Please label all clothing items, especially tracksuits and jackets.

Nail varnish or acrylic nails are not allowed for safety reasons.

Collection Arrangements

- Inform the school of any changes in collection arrangements, through Aladdin, email or phone.
- Ensure the school is aware of the names of people who have permission to collect your children



Homework

Junior classes

All homework goes into the Homework Folder.

Senior classes

Pupils record in homework journal or notebook.

Friday is generally a homework free day.

Lunches

- Healthy Eating Policy in the school.
- Healthy Lunch – focus on fruit, vegetables and healthy foods, avoiding sugary snacks and drinks.
- School participates in the Food Dudes programme which promotes fruit and vegetables for lunches.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Curious Minds operate a Breakfast and Afterschool Club from Monday to Friday in the school.

- Pupils can be dropped from 7am and the Afterschool Club remains open until 6pm.
- There is NCS funding so the overall cost is reduced for parents.
- For more information, please contact Marie Sheehy on 086 3114984 or visit the Facebook page Curious Minds Rosscarbery.

Aladdin Connect

- Aladdin is the main and secure communication system between school and home.
- App is available to download for convenience.
- Epayment system for school expenses with the use of a debit/credit card.
- Notice Board keeps parent up-to-date.
- Feature to inform the school of absences etc.

Primary Online Database POD

Schools are obliged to submit the following details to the Department of Education and Skills online database (POD):

- Pupil's name, address, date of birth, PPSN, gender and nationality
- Further details can be found on www.education.ie and click POD

Parent Teacher Meeting

- Usually held before Christmas.
- Appointment times allocated through Aladdin.
- Opportunity to link in with class teacher.

Parents Association

- Very active Parents Association.
- Work with our school to get the best possible education for all our pupils.

Child Protection

The school is compliant with the new Child Protection Procedures.

Designated Liaison Person: Ms. Sarah O' Brien

Deputy Liaison Person: Ms. Jennifer Fitzgerald

Absenteeism

Under the Education Welfare Act, all school are obliged to notify the Education Welfare Board if a pupil has been absent for a total of twenty days or more in any school year.

Please inform the school of the reason for any absence (sickness etc) either by Aladdin or phone or email.

Contact the school:

Parents can communicate with the class teacher via Aladdin, our online Management Information System.

Advance appointments can be made to speak with a class teacher or the Principal.

Office hours are:

Mon-Thurs: 9.00am – 1.00pm

Friday 9.00am – 10.30am

Activities

Active School

- Have been awarded two Active Schools Flags and working toward the third flag.
- New walkway around the school to promote walking and exercise.
- Promoting physical activity within the school.
- Gymnastics, athletics, football, basketball etc enjoyed by our pupils.
- Full week of activities in last term of school!



Basketball

Ms. O'Brien coaches the girls on a voluntary basis.

- Team enters Cis Pheil na mBunscoil in Neptune or Parochial Hall, Cork
- Friendly matches with Skibbereen Basketball Club.



Football

- Emphasis on participation
- Play in Sciath na Scol annually
- Training received in school with local Ladies Football Club, GAA and Ms. Murphy.
- Training from County Board
- Representatives set to Primary Games annually.

Athletics

- Senior pupils participate in the Cork Sports Partnership athletics with Lorna
- Interschool Blitz at the end of the session,

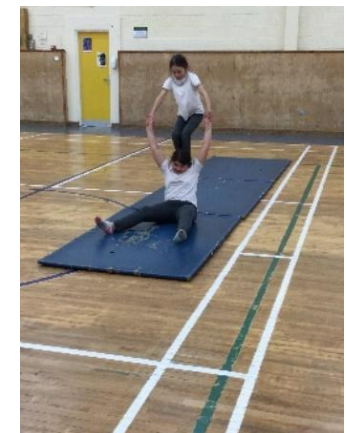


Swimming:

- The senior classes attend classes in the nearby Celtic Ross Leisure Centre.

Gymnastics

- All classes enjoy a course of gymnastics with Deirdre Sexton.



Orienteering

- All pupils participate with coach Steve Perkins.
- Learn how to read maps and follow an orienteering course.

Rowing

- Coaching sessions received from local rowing club.
- Participation in School Yawl Rowing Competition.
- Past pupils now hold All Ireland medals for rowing and have represented Ireland at International level!

Cork City Sports

- The school sends a representation every year to the Cork City Sports, held in MTU Cork City.

School Marathon

- Pupils from First to Sixth Class run a full marathon over the last term of school.

Amber Flag

- Awarded the Amber Flag for promoting and supporting positive mental health.
- Invited visitors to the school to speak about mindfulness and wellbeing.
- Awareness of emotions.



Green Flag

- Proud to be flying 6 Green Flags!
- Working towards our 7th Flag
- Continuous reducing our carbon footprint
- Working hand in hand with the Rosscarbery Tidy Town Committee – Rosscarbery scooped a Gold Medal in the 2022 Tidy Towns Competition!
- Bird feeding stations throughout the school
- Very conscious of our role in the survival of the planet.



School Choir

- Led by Ms Fitzgerald on a voluntary basis
- Practice during lunchtimes
- Invited to sing at local events
- Musical Recital held in the church.

Creative Schools – Music

- Part of the Creative Schools Programme
- Opportunity to participate in song writing workshops etc
- Musical experiences enjoyed by all e.g. sessions with John Spillane, rapper Garry McC etc
- Check out the video recording of the rap song composed and performed by the pupils on YouTube Rosscarbery Creative Cluster



Tin Whistle

- Pupils from Second to Sixth Class learn to play the tin whistle with Kay O' Flynn
- Senior pupils play at St. Patrick's Day Mass and other events

Debating

- School enters a team in Concern Primary Debating Competition which focuses on the Millennium Goals.
- Whole class involvement.
- Past pupils have won the National Event!

Credit Union Quiz

- Two teams represent the school annually.

School Garden

- Whole school involvement.
- All classes have an area to plant.
- Herbs, vegetables, flowers etc are planted.
- Polytunnel grows tomatoes, strawberries, cucumbers etc.
- Speakers invited to the school to talk about biodiversity, organic gardening, bee keeping etc.



Ceilí Dancing

- All pupils enjoy a course of ceilí dancing in the second term of school



Heritage in Schools

- Whole school participation with Calvin Jones from the Heritage in Schools Scheme.
- Bird watching and information walk in the nearby estuary,

STEPS Young Engineers Award:

- The pupils of Fourth Class participated in the STEPS Young Engineering Award with Ms. Hume and Ms. Tobin.
- Challenged to explore the world of engineering by developing an engineering project that would help their local community.
- Engineers and members of the Tidy Towns Committee visited the school to inspect the projects and hear the girls innovative ideas!



Cookery

- Electric cooker used to cook and bake various sweet and savoury delights!



Literacy Lift-Off

- Whole-class intensive intervention focusing on reading and other aspects of the English curriculum.
- Has been in operation in the school for more than 10 years and has proven to be very successful and hugely beneficial to all pupils.
- Cork County Council's mobile library visits the school once every two weeks – this offers our pupils a wide variety of additional books to read.

Aistear

- Irish word for journey, symbolises the beginning of the child's educational journey.
- Early childhood curriculum framework for children from birth to six years focusing on learning through play.
- Lays important foundation for later learning.

IT

- All classrooms have interactive large screen smart boards
- Bank of 24 laptops for use within the school
- 8 iPads and a Mac for class use.





Mission Statement



St. Mary's Rosscarbery is a Catholic Primary School.

The school is under the trusteeship of the Catholic Bishop of Cork and Ross and is inspired by the Mercy tradition and philosophy of Education and by the vision of Catherine McAuley, Foundress of the Mercy Congregation,

**“to fit the students for earth without
unfitting them for Heaven.”**

Our school welcomes children of all faiths and of none. It is committed to the holistic development of each individual member of the School Community.

In a caring and harmonious environment, **we aim:**

- To foster a community where each child is helped to reach his/her full potential and where all the Staff and Children are appreciated and supported.
- To continue to develop co-operation between School, Parents, Parish, other Schools and the wider Community.
- To sustain the process of ongoing change to meet the needs of a changing society, while retaining our distinctive heritage and culture.