

# St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



#### January 2018

#### In truth and love

#### From the Head Teacher's desk

t is a particular pleasure to write this newsletter at the beginning of what will be a very special year for St Brigid's Primary as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the opening of our school and also the centenary of the Education (Scotland) Act 1918 which brought Catholic schools into the public education system funded by local authorities. Prior to this act, the Catholic community and parents chose to establish more than 200 'voluntary schools' in Scotland. These schools received some central funding but no assistance from the rates which of course Catholic parents still had to pay.

The Scottish Catholic Education Service has commissioned a new icon to celebrate this special year. The icon, named Jesus our Teacher, will go on tour around Scotland coming to the Archdiocese of Glasgow from mid September to mid October. We have ordered a fullsized replica of the icon which, along with the 1918 – 2018 logo pictured above, will become the central display in our entrance foyer. We should have these resources by the beginning of February. Please take time to have a look at the icon when you visit the school. Over the page you can read about how we are working to improve the Catholicity of our school and I will keep you informed about the celebrations in coming newsletters.

At today's assembly, 82 children received a certificate for 100% attendance and 103 children for 95% or better between October and December. Overall, this is 65% of the children, a reduction of 4% from the same time last year. Attainment statistics for our own school last session show that children whose attendance was below 90% attained 24% less well in reading and writing than children whose attendance was above 90%. We would hope to increase the number of children receiving an attendance award for this term.

Congratulations to Mrs Moretti and Mr Keddilty who have been appointed as permanent Principal Teachers in St Brigid's Primary. I am also delighted to inform you that Dr Watters has been appointed to the permanent staff of St Brigid's. Mrs Walsh has returned to work on a phased return. She will teach P1a on Thursdays and P7 on Fridays.

May I wish all our families and friends a healthy, happy and peaceful 2018.

#### Calling all P1 & P2 Parents and Carers Story Sacks

Our story sack initiative has proved a very popular way for parents and carers to support their child's reading journey. Each bag comes with a well-loved picture book and toys and games to enhance the story. We have extended the range of books/sacks available to borrow and invite P1 and P2 parents to come to school and choose a sack to borrow on alternate weeks beginning:

#### Primary 1 Thursday 11 January at 2:30m Primary 2 Thursday 18 January at 2:30pm

As this is an opportunity for families to learn together, children will only be able to borrow a story sack if a parent, other relative or friend is able to attend.



#### Children 1st



January can be an extremely difficult month for families due to financial pressures. A **Children 1st** money advice worker will be available in school at the above time to offer confidential advice on: rent, mortgage and housing issues, debt, benefits and much more. A separate letter with more information will be sent home before the event.

#### **February Break**

The school will be closed on **Monday 12thFebruary** and **Tuesday 13th February** for the mid-term holiday. **Wednesday 14th February** is an inservice training day for staff and children should not attend on that day.



**Carol Scott** Head Teacher



## Diary Dates 2018

Mon 8 Jan	Attendance awards assembly
Wed 10 Jan	Badminton squad to city finals
Mon 15 Jan	P2b class assembly-parents welcome to
	attend
Tues 16 Jan	Tooth fluoride varnishing programme for
	P1—P4 children
	Mrs Scott to city wide Primary Head
	Teachers' business meeting
	Ms Carlton to First Confession course
Wed 17 Jan	Mrs Scott and Mrs Moretti to Glasgow's
filed 17 out	Digital Learning Strategy update
	Determined to Dance lessons for P <sub>3</sub>
	Mr Keddilty to Re Coordinators' meeting
Fri 19 Jan	Mrs Scott to Catholic Headteachers'
111 19 Jan	Association of Primaries in Scotland
	(CHAPS) executive meeting
Mon 22 Ian	Class awards assembly
1011 22 Jaii	Dr Watters to Scottish College for
	Educational Leadership
Tuos oo Ion	Dr Watters to Scottish College for
Tues 23 Jan	Educational Leadership
Thurs of Isr	Mr Keddilty to First Communion course
Thurs 25 JanP7 to Holocaust Memorial Day event	
	Mrs McShane to Health and Wellbeing
<b>T</b>	Coordinators' meeting
Tues 30 Jan	Ms Shaw to Confirmation course
	Mrs Scott to Connecting Learning for All
	Conference
Thurs 1 Feb	Feast of St Brigid—whole school to
	10:00am Mass
Fri 2 Feb	Glasgow Sports' Awards
	P3a class assembly—parents are welcome
Wed 7 Feb	Selected children to Gymnastics comp
Mon 12 Feb	
Tues 13 Feb	
Wed 14 Feb	In-service day for staff-school closed for
	children
Fri 16 Feb	Mrs Scott to Catholic Headteachers'
	Association of Primaries in Scotland
	(CHAPS) executive meeting

### Contact us:

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School Improvement Plan Priority 4: to celebrate the catholicity of the school and evaluate and plan for the Catholic faith development of our school community, particularly in relation to serving the common good.

How we are achieving this target:

- All children will have had learning opportunities to understand the historical and present contexts of Catholic schools, including the Church's teaching about our responsibility for the poor and vulnerable.
- We will mark the significance of 2018 for our school with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Tartaglia on 27/4/18 and by supporting local and international charities.
- Through displays and a whole school assembly -St Brigid's primary: Good for Scotland", children will share with parents and the wider community what they have been learning about Catholic Education in Scotland and what they have been doing to celebrate this special year.
- We have evaluated the ways in which we promote social justice and opportunity for all, and identified our strengths and areas for improvement.
- Appropriate teachers will attend Archdiocese of Glasgow in-service training, including in the new resources for the Sacrament of Confirmation at P7.
- Senior children and staff will join with the national Catholic education community at the national schools' Mass in Falkirk.

#Catholic Schools: Good for Scotland

