



# St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



October 2017

*In truth and love*

## From the Head Teacher's desk

The first few weeks of term seem to have flown by and it's hard to believe that we are approaching the October break and preparing for parents' night. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents come along to our Meet the Teacher events and find out how to support the children at home. You will receive a parents' night appointment this week and I look forward to seeing you on the day.

The year has got off to a great start with the school receiving two very special awards. We are thrilled to have received the Gold **sportscotland** School Sport Award. This is a national initiative that is designed to encourage schools to continuously improve physical education and sport. The Award also encourages sporting links between schools and the communities around them. A representative of **sportscotland** will visit the school to present our flag and certificate. We have also received our third Lord Provosts' Award for Road Safety. This award is in recognition of the work done across the school to help the children keep themselves safe on the roads. Mrs McShane and two children will go to the City Chambers this Friday to collect the award.

We are always working to improve the education we provide for the children and each year prepare a school improvement plan which is the focus of our work for that year. Over the next few months I will give you information on how we are working toward achieving these priorities. You can read more about Priority 1 in the next column.

We will continue to encourage excellent attendance as we know there is a strong link between attendance and children's attainment and achievement. Attendance awards for the first term will be given out at assembly on 30 October.

Over the course of the year, all classes P2—P7 will offer parents an opportunity to join us for assembly. P6 parents have already had this opportunity and P3b parents are invited to join us next Monday, 2 October, at 10:00am.

Thank you for your support in getting the school year off to such a good start.

**Carol Scott**  
Head Teacher



## Improving Our School

### School Improvement Plan Priority 1: To raise attainment and achievement in literacy.



We are working towards achieving this by:

- ◆ Adapting the primary 1 curriculum to ensure a strong foundation in phonological awareness before progressing to the formal teaching of phonics.
- ◆ Giving Primary 1 parents the opportunity to hear about phonological awareness, why it is the building block for reading and how they can help at home. Primary 1 parents have also had the opportunity to share their children's learning in class.
- ◆ Extending children's vocabulary. In P1—P3 classes this includes reading and discussing three stories per day.
- ◆ Using advice from Glasgow's Literacy for All programme to review how we teach understanding of what is read.
- ◆ Refreshing how we teach writing using *Big Writing*. All teachers will attend in-service on using this method in October.
- ◆ Using the new national benchmarks for talking and listening, reading and writing to assess children's progress
- ◆ Helping children to understand the purpose of their learning, how it links to skills for learning, life and work and identify their next steps.



**October Holiday**

**Monday 16 October—**

**Friday 20 October inclusive**

## Catholic Schools—Good for Scotland

### Celebrating 100 years of partnership

In 2018 we will reach the centenary of the 1918 Education (Scotland) Act. This was the Act that saw Catholic schools transfer from Diocesan control to State governance. It is a chance to publicly mark the ways in which Catholic schools are not just good for Catholics, but good for Scotland. This is a time to reflect and thank God for one hundred years of serving our local communities. An Icon of Jesus the teacher has been commissioned to mark the centenary of the Education Act. The icon will tour the country from Catholic Education week at the end of January, visiting each diocese for 4-6 weeks. The icon is due to visit the Archdiocese of Glasgow in September/October 2018.

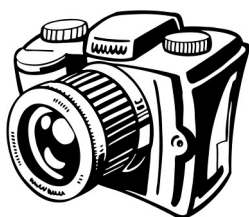
The anniversary of the Act links very well to 60th anniversary of the opening of St Brigid's Primary on 29th April 1958 as a Catholic school for the community of Toryglen. During this school year and next, the children will be involved in learning activities and celebrations around both anniversaries. I am particularly delighted that Archbishop Tartaglia has agreed to celebrate our anniversary Mass on Friday 27th April in St Brigid's Church. We would love to know if any of the current children are the third or fourth generations of a family to attend St Brigid's.

Also, as part of our 60th anniversary celebrations we intend to have a whole school photograph taken on Thursday 12 October. Individual photographs of each child will also be available for purchase. Ideally, we would like every child to be in full school uniform with pale blue shirts and school ties on that day.

## Whole School Photograph

**Thursday 12 October**

**Thursday**



## Rag Bag collection

**Friday 27 October**

Please bring any clothes, bags, shoes and belts that you no longer need to school by Thursday 26 October. Donations are most appreciated as this contributes to our sustainability work and Eco Schools status and also provides a donation to school funds.

## October

### Month of the Holy Rosary



We will be saying the Rosary at 8:45am in the ICT Suite each day during the month of October. This has become a tradition in St Brigid's Primary and is a lovely way to begin the day. Please encourage your child to come along; entry will be by the front door. Parents and carers are also most welcome to join us.

## Active Girls' Day

### Friday 6 October

We will have some additional clubs running to support the this national initiative:

**P4/P5 gymnastics** in gym hall before school 8.20am-8.50am.

**P1-P3** fun games club in gym hall at lunchtime

**P6/P7** netball club in assembly hall after school

Some of our P7 girls will be developing their leadership skills by helping with the before school and lunchtime clubs.

Please encourage your daughters to take part.

## Parent / Family

### Helpers



The staff of St Brigid's Primary take great pride in the number and variety of additional out of school opportunities that we provide for children. When we take children out of school we are required to have a ratio of 1 adult to every 10 children. Thank you so much to the small group of parents and grandparents who regularly help with outings, sometimes at short notice. However, there have been times when we have found it difficult to find helpers and we have been close to cancelling outings and events. We understand that family and work commitments can make it difficult to be available during the school day but please consider if you are able to help. The children would be so disappointed if they were all set to go out and this had to be cancelled at short notice, not to mention the expense of having to pay for buses which have been booked.



## Diary Dates

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Mon 2 Oct    | P 3b assembly—parents welcome                                    |
| Thurs 5 Oct  | Ms Jones to Improving our Classrooms                             |
|              | Individual parents' meetings                                     |
| Mon 9 Oct    | Class awards assembly  |
| Tues 10 Oct  | Pinsent Masons to work with P6                                   |
| Wed 11 Oct   | Police Scotland talks for all classes                            |
|              | Mrs Moretti to Glasgow Counts                                    |
| Thurs 12 Oct | Whole school and individual photographs                          |
| Fri 13 Oct   | <b>In-service Day—school closed for children</b>                 |
| Mon 16       | Mid term break   |
| Mon 23 Oct   | School reopens 9:00am  |
|              | Flu vaccination programme  |
| Tues 24 Oct  | P5 and P6/5 Glasgow bus trip                                     |
| Wed 25 Oct   | Holyrood Learning Community                                      |
|              | P7 public speaking competition                                   |
| Thurs 26 Oct | Hallowe'en parties organised by Parent Council                   |
| Wed 1 Nov    | All Saints—whole school to Mass in St Brigid's church at 10:00am |
|              | Mrs Moretti to Glasgow Counts                                    |
| Tues 7 Nov   | Mrs Scott to South Area headteachers' meeting                    |
|              | Mr Keddilto to Archdiocese of Glasgow in-service                 |
| Thurs 9 Nov  | Ms Jones to Improving our Classrooms                             |
| Mon 11 Nov   | P6/5 assembly—parents welcome                                    |
| Tues 14 Nov  | World of Work Day  |
|              | Mrs N O'Neill to Global Storylines                               |
|              | Mrs N O'Neill to Global Storylines in-service                    |
| Wed 15 Nov   |  |
| Mon 20 Nov   | Last play session with Jeely Piece Club                          |
| Tues 21 Nov  | P7 swimming—first block  |

Please contact the school office if you are able to help with any of the outings above.

## Raising Attainment in

### Numeracy and Maths

#### How you can help?

All children in St Brigid's now have an active Sumdog account. Sumdog can be accessed through a PC or tablet (via Sumdog app). We would encourage children to use Sumdog at home as part of their weekly Maths homework.

Sumdog is an educational website that motivates students to practise mathematics skills through online games. Sumdog has been developed with the help of teachers and educational experts around the world. Researchers have found that the length of time spent using Sumdog has a highly significant, positive impact on pupils' mathematical improvement. Pupils who spend an average of 1 hour per week on Sumdog, have been found to progress 3 times faster in mathematics. Pupils and teachers have observed an improvement in both mathematical ability and attitude towards learning mathematics since beginning regular Sumdog use.



## School Sports Loyalty Card

Last year, our School Sport Loyalty Card was introduced for P4-P7 classes. It has recently been relaunched at assembly for all pupils in the school. The aim of this is to encourage greater participation in our school sports clubs. This was a success in its first year with 91.4% of pupils participating in at least one school sports club. Every time a child takes part in a school sports club they will receive a star on their loyalty card and once their loyalty card is complete with 8 stars it gets entered into our sports prize draw. Pupils can enter as many loyalty cards into the draw as possible so the more sports clubs pupils attend the greater the chance of winning a prize. Last year our prizes were a tour of Celtic Park, a tour of Ibrox stadium, tickets for the Glasgow Tigers, tickets for the Sirens netball, vouchers for AirSpace and brand new footballs.



### Contact us:

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Glasgow  
G42 0EH  
0141 647 3952



[headteacher@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk)

Follow us on Twitter @StBrigidsPS  
<http://www.st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk/>

### Pupil Absence Reporting Line:

0141 287 0039

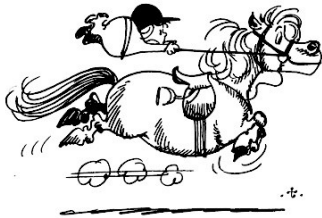
### Glasgow City Council website:

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/>

### Parent Council email address:

[st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

# Parent Council News



## Race Night Saturday 30 September

Kingswood Bowling Club  
Tickets £5 available  
by emailing [st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

Your Parent Council needs your support



## Halloween

### Parties

**Thursday 26 October**  
Primary 1 - 3 6pm till 7pm  
Primary 4 - 7 7:15pm till 8:30pm

**£1 entry.** There will also be a tuck shop selling juice, crisps and sweets.

Due to health and safety, parents will not be permitted to stay in the school when the parties are taking place.