



# St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



October 2018

*In truth and love*

## From the Head Teacher's desk

**Y**ou will know from previous newsletters that during 2018 we have been celebrating the centenary of the 1918 Education Act (Scotland) which brought Catholic schools into local authority control, therefore, providing our schools with the same funding as non-denomination schools. As part of the celebrations, a new icon—Jesus Our Teacher—was commissioned. The original icon has been on a tour of Scotland and has now arrived in the Archdiocese of Glasgow. St Gabriel's, a local parish, will be hosting the icon over the coming weekend. P7 and P6 classes will attend Mass in St Gabriel's Church on Monday 1 October, have a chance to view the icon and be present for the announcement of the winners of a children's competition to depict, through art, what the icon means to them. P3 classes made a pilgrimage to view the icon in St Andrew's Cathedral this week.

Good attendance is closely linked with attainment and achievement at school. We like to reward good attendance and will do this by giving out attendance awards from August to the October break at a special assembly on Monday 29 October.

School staff value greatly the relationship between home and school and the important role played by parents and carers in their children's learning. Families will receive shortly their individual appointment/s for Parents' Night and we are looking forward to meeting you next week. Please bring your child with you to be part of the conversation and help him/her to become an increasingly independent learner. I will be available if you wish to catch up with me and Mr Cassidy also hopes to attend. Meetings will take place in your child's classroom and we will have information stalls from some community partners in the main hall.

As you know, Mr Cassidy is on a short term secondment to the post of Acting Head Teacher in Our Lady of the Annunciation Primary. During this time, Mrs R O'Neill will undertake some of the duties normally carried out by Mr Cassidy. We are pleased to welcome Ms Kyrsten Milne to teach Primary 1b for the next few weeks. Congratulations to Mr Walker who was married during the September holiday weekend. We wish Mr & Mrs Walker a long and happy future together. Ms Laing will be leaving us at the end of term to join her husband in St Andrew's and we wish her well in her new school.

Thank you for your on-going support.

**Carol Scott**  
Head Teacher

## Improving Our School Priority: Digital Learning

One of our main improvement priorities for this session is engaging with Glasgow's refreshed Digital Learning Strategy. Children are using digital technologies and media at increasingly younger ages and for longer periods of time. Along with parents, we have a responsibility to prepare our children for the social and economic opportunities and challenges that developments in technology will bring and help them to develop the skills to adapt to a digital world.

Glasgow is investing heavily in digital technology, including new hardware and software for schools. In January, each teacher will receive an iPad and each classroom will be equipped with a large flat screen TV. Staff will then spend from January to June undertaking training, getting to know the technology and trialling the learning apps with the children. In August/September 2019 the school will receive iPads for children—one iPad for every 5 children in P1–P5 and one iPad per child in P6 and P7.

The school will work with parents to devise our own Digital Learning Strategy to allow the older children to take iPads home safely and securely.



Our school is in one of the early learning communities in Glasgow to be involved in this exciting development.

## Outdoor Learning Outdoor Clothing

All children in the city are entitled to experience learning outdoors throughout their time in school. By taking learning outdoors we can remove some of the barriers that the traditional classroom can put up for young people and can develop hands on, real-life experiences. As outdoor experiences will be planned as routine parts of children's learning, it is important that they come to school each day with a suitable waterproof and warm jacket. Children like being outside and they have told us they want to go out to play if there is only a bit of rain. Glasgow's weather is notoriously unpredictable and sunny mornings can change to rain as the day goes on.





## October Month of the Holy Rosary

Children and parents are invited to join us to say the Rosary at 8:45am each morning during October. This is a lovely, peaceful way to begin the day so please encourage the children to come along.

## McMillan Cancer Support

### Coffee Morning

**Thistle Housing** is hosting a McMillan Coffee Morning in the Cornerstone on Thursday 27 September from 10:00am–12:00. P3 classes will attend the coffee morning and P3b will entertain the guests. All parents, carers and families are also invited to support this worthwhile cancer charity.



## British Sign Language (BSL) Glasgow Plan

**Glasgow City Council want to hear from BSL users!**

Please come along on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30 – 8.30pm at the City Chambers, George Square. Refreshments from 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start. Come and give your views on the draft BSL plan.

An English version of the draft plan can be accessed here: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=42578&p=0>  
A BSL translation of the Draft Plan to follow.

Please email [BSL@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:BSL@glasgow.gov.uk) and let them know if you will come, and if you have any other access or communication support needs.  
BSL interpreters will be available at the event.



## Blairvadach Outdoor Centre Residential Week

One of the senior instructors from Blairvadach centre will visit the school on:

**Thursday 4 October from 2:00pm–3:00pm.**

This will be an opportunity for the P7 and P6 children attending the residential week, and their parents/carers, to learn more about the activities on offer, something of life at the centre and what they should bring with them.

## Sponsored Danceathon



St Brigid's Mini Vinnie Group has organised a **Sponsored Danceathon** to raise money for our school funds and charities.

Children should come to school on

**Thursday 11 October**

dressed in their own clothes and ready to dance!

**PLEASE HAVE COMPLETED SPONSORSHIP FORMS  
AND MONEY HANDED IN BY  
TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER**

## 137th Scout Group

Looking for fun activities for the children over the autumn and winter months?

St Columbkille's Church Hall  
Wednesday evenings  
Beavers (age 5 3/4–8) 6:30–7:30  
Cubs (age 8–10 1/2) 6:30–8:00

Boys and girls welcome



**Parent Council AGM**  
**Thursday 27 September**  
**7:00PM**

Every parent of a child in St Brigid's Primary is a member of the Parent Forum. The Parent Council represents the Parent Forum in supporting the work of the school. In our survey of parents' views last March, a significant number of parents said that they would welcome further clarification on the work of the Parent Council and how they could get involved. The Parent Council would be delighted for you to use this opportunity to come along, hear about their work and find out about opportunities to contribute, should you wish.

**Your Parent Council needs you!**



The Parent Council has organised Hallowe'en Parties on the evening of:

**Thursday 25 October**

There will be separate parties for P1-P3 and P4-P7. More information regarding times and the cost of tickets will follow from the Parent Council.

**For health and safety reasons, parents need to bring their child to the party, however, adults will not be able to stay at either party.**



**School Sport  
and  
Opportunities to Achieve More Widely**

Attending clubs gives children the opportunity to try out different sports and activities, learn new skills and, perhaps, discover talents they didn't know they had. In St Brigid's Primary, we work hard to give the children as many opportunities for personal achievement as possible so, over the course of the year, there will be a wide variety of sports' clubs on offer to different year groups. Last session, 96% of the children attended one or more of the 26 clubs on offer.

We have a number of sports' clubs running this term:

Monday	P5-P7 running at lunchtime
Tuesday	P2 football after school
Wednesday	P4-P7 girls football after school
Thursday	P4 basketball at lunchtime P5-P7 football team training after school
Friday	P6-P7 basketball after school
Saturday	P5-P7 football team matches

Fri 28th Sept is European School Sport Day. We've not celebrated this before but there will be some one off taster sessions for children from P3-P7: P3-P5 will have a fitness club led by P7s from 8.20am. P6 and P7 will have the opportunity to learn handball after school.

Fri 5th Oct is Active Girls Day. This will be run in a similar way to last year with all girls in the school hopefully getting the opportunity to participate in a club. P3-P5 will have a gymnastics club led by P7s from 8.20am. P1 and P2 will have a fun games club at lunchtime led by P7s and I'm trying to organise a dance coach to lead a session for P6 and P7 after school.



Mr Walker and Mr Cannon have also offered guitar lessons to P4 and P6 children. There will be opportunities for other groups later.

**Please encourage the children to get involved in as many activities as possible.**



## School Photographs

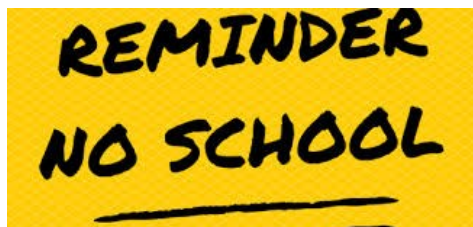
Following a request from parents last session, we have booked a photographer to come to school on Thursday 25 October and Friday 26 October to take individual photographs of children and also family groups. There will be a choice of packages to purchase at different price points and there is no obligation to buy. Individual photographs are likely to be taken on the first day, however, some individual photographs and family groups may extend into the second day.



## October Holiday

**Monday 15 October—Friday 19 October**

**The school will also be closed for children on Friday 12 October, which is an in-service training day for staff.**



### Contact us:

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

### Pupil Absence Reporting Line:

0141 287 0039

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18832>

### Glasgow City Council website:

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

### Parent Council email address:

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

## Diary Dates



Thurs 27 Sept

Alison Thewliss MP to visit the school P3 classes to McMillan Coffee morning in Cornerstone Hall

Fri 28 Sept

**Parent Council AGM at 7:00pm**

Selected P5 children to take part in the Great Scottish (Schools') Run

Mon 1 Oct

P4a Class assembly—parents welcome P6, P7/6 and P7 classes to Mass in St Gabriel's Parish

Tues 2 Oct

Mrs Moretti to iPad training

Pinsent Masons lawyers to work with Mr Woods' class

Wed 3 Oct

Ms Shaw to visit St Paul's Primary

P3b to visit St Brigid's Church

Thurs 4 Oct

Blairvadach meeting for children and parents - 2:00pm

Individual parent/child/teacher

Meetings 3:30-5:30 & 6:00-8:00

Mon 8 Oct

Class awards assembly

Tues 9 Oct

Mr Keddlity to Literacy for All training Mrs Moretti to Connected Learning Conference

Ms Alexander to Vocation to Teach course at Archdiocese of Glasgow

Wed 10 Oct

Ms Shaw to visit St Francis' Primary

Thurs 11 Oct

Mini Vinnies Danceathon

Fri 12 Oct

In-service training day—school closed for children

Mon 15 Oct

October holiday week—school closed

Mon 22 Oct

School reopens at 9:00am

Wed 24 Oct

Teachers from St Francis' Primary and St Paul's Primary to visit P4a

Mr Cannon to Vocation to Teach course at Archdiocese of Glasgow

Thurs 25 Oct

School photographs

Fri 26 Oct

School photographs

Mon 29 Oct

Attendance awards assembly

Wed 31 Oct

Mrs McShane to visit St Paul's Primary Feast of All Saints—whole school (depending on number of adult helpers)

Fri 1 Nov

to Mass in St Brigid's Church at 10:00am

Fri 2 Nov

Mrs N O'Neill to STEM Ambassadors training

Sat 3 Nov

Choir to sing at Scottish Association of Language Teachers' conference

Mon 5 Nov

P5 class assembly—parents welcome P7 to outdoor residential week at Blairvadach Outdoor Centre

**Please telephone the school office if you are able to help with any of the above outings, particularly the visits to Mass.**

You can find details of all school holidays for this session and session 2019/20 on <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17024>.