



# St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



August/September 2020

*In truth and love*

## From the Head Teacher's desk

Welcome back to all our children and staff. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our community for ensuring that our school could reopen in a safe manner. The school has been so calm and I am delighted to report that children are very well settled. I am thrilled with the result of our combined efforts and everyone should be very proud of how smoothly we have opened the school in difficult and challenging circumstances.

In this newsletter, you will be reminded of the information on the practical arrangements which you need to know about as we work to ensure St Brigid's Primary is a safe and purposeful learning environment for our children. Please look out for any new information too. In St Brigid's Primary, we have assessed risk in line with council policy and have put systems and procedures in place which take activities already assessed as low risk and minimise this risk even further. Hand washing is being facilitated throughout the day by teaching and support staff. In addition, staggered breaks will ensure that everyone comes into minimal contact with others who are not in their class.

This session, we also welcome new staff to the school and hope that they quickly feel part of our St Brigid's family. Mr James Brady (P6a teacher), Mrs Zeab Ahmad (English as an Additional Language teacher) and Miss Lucy Anderson (class cover and support teacher).

At the end of the session we said a fond farewell to P7 and we wish them the best of luck as they continue their education in Holyrood Secondary. We also said goodbye to Miss O' Kane and Miss Kennedy who have secured posts in other schools in the city. Mr Keddlity, one of our Principal teachers, has secured a permanent Depute Head Teacher post in St Vincent's Primary following a secondment in St Albert's Primary. Congratulations to them all and we offer them our best wishes for the future and thank them for their contributions during their time in St Brigid's.

As in previous years, we will try to keep you as up to date as much as possible with what is happening in school through monthly newsletters, our website and Twitter. Very soon, I will send out a copy of our Standards & Quality report which will highlight many of our successes during session 2019-20. I look forward to another extremely successful year for our school community and thank you in anticipation of your usual fantastic support. **The annual data check will be distributed shortly however if you have changed contact numbers please let us know as soon as possible.** Please do not hesitate to use any of the contact details on the back page if you have any questions or comments.

*Paul Cassidy*

## Entering the school building/Playground

Can I remind parents and carers that they are **not permitted to come into the playground** and that each child should be accompanied by 1 parent/carers only (there are special circumstances for P1 parents and carers for the first few weeks)? Your child should enter the playground from the allocated gate no earlier than 8:50am and there will be a member of the management team in each playground. Once your child has entered the playground, **we ask that you make your way home in order to minimise the number of parents/carers gathering at the gates.** The gate across the playground will be locked and so is no longer available as a short cut from Newhouse Rd to Glenmore Ave or vice versa. The gate will be opened for a few minutes in the morning and afternoon to allow P5 & P6a access to and from the main entrance.



**P1a/P1b door (Glenmore Ave gate)**  
**P2/P3/2 door (Glenmore Ave gate)**  
**P5/P6a main entrance (Newhouse Rd gate)**  
**P3/P4 library door (girls' toilets) (Prospecthill Rd gate)**  
**P7a/P7b music room door (Newhouse Rd gate)**  
**P5/4/P6b door (boys' toilets) (Prospecthill Rd gate)**



### **! Important !**

If you wish to speak to a member of staff for any reason, you must phone the school—new national protocols mean that we can no longer have a quick chat in the playground. I am hoping this will not last too long.

If you have children in both playgrounds, please collect your youngest child/ren from the infant yard and then make your way to the Prospecthill Rd gate where you can collect your other child/ren. Older children are no longer allowed to move across the school to the infant yard. Staff will wait with children until you walk round.

## Enhanced cleaning provision



A rigorous approach to environmental cleaning is being implemented to prevent the spread of the virus. Our current before and afterschool cleaning regime will be enhanced by a new day cleaner everyday from 10:00am-2:00pm. Our current cleaners have had their hours increased and will cover this post.

All frequently touched surfaces, equipment, door handles and toilets used during the day will be cleaned throughout the day by the day cleaner. Staff also have access to cleaning materials in class if they feel that need to sanitise an area at any point.



## Social Distancing

**There is no requirement for children to socially distance.** Indoors, the children will be maintained in their classes throughout the day wherever possible. Children will, however, mix out with their classes in the playground.

2 metre physical distancing should be maintained at all times between adults and adults as well as adults and children to support a safe environment.

Staff will work with children to ensure that they understand the need to this in a nurturing way.

If there is a requirement for extended first aid then PPE will be worn by the adult administering the first aid.

## Classes and Teachers 2020-2021



Head Teacher—Mr P Cassidy  
Depute Head Teacher—Mrs C Wishart

P1a	Mrs K Simpson (PT)
P1b	Mrs L Din/Mrs S Moretti (PT)
P2	Miss M Sweeney
P3/2	Mrs N O'Neill
P3	Mr S Walker
P4	Mrs D McShane
P5/4	Miss S Kavanagh
P5	Mr M Cannon
P6a	Mr J Brady
P6b	Mrs R O'Neill (PT)
P7a	Ms L Wilkinson
P7b	Mr J Woods

Improvement Challenge - Miss MC Shaw (PT)

Support Mrs C Gallagher  
Mrs D Burns  
Miss L Anderson

Please remember that more than ever this classification is subject to change due to on-going developments at Scottish Government level as we tackle this virus—thanks in advance for your understanding.



## High Expectations— School Uniform

The children all look very smart in their new uniforms. Please continue to support our full uniform policy as this helps children to feel included and to be proud of their school. **I am glad that P1 have had the chance to wear their ties, however from Tuesday 18 August, I would ask that all children do not wear a school tie as it is difficult to wash them as often.** This is under constant review and I will write to you after the September weekend with an update. I am hoping to have everyone back in ties as soon as possible.

Here is a reminder of our uniform

- ✓ Pale blue school shirt (not a fashion variation)
- ✓ **School tie or P7 tie (currently not required and changes will be communicated)**
- ✓ Grey skirt or grey tailored school trousers
- ✓ Plain grey v-neck pullover or cardigan
- ✓ **Plain pale blue polo shirt and simple blue shorts for PE (currently not required and changes will be communicated)**
- ✓ Grey socks or tights
- ✓ Black gym shoes for indoors
- ✓ Simple hair accessories



Please visit the Glasgow City Council Website where in the School and Learning section, you will see an option to apply for

## School term dates 2020

### August

- Monday 10 August 2020 (Return date for Teachers & In-Service Day)
- Tuesday 11 August 2020 (In-Service Day)
- Wednesday 12 August 2020 (Return date for pupils)

### September Weekend

- Friday 25 September 2020
- Monday 28 September 2020

### October

- Friday 9 October 2020 (In-Service Day)
- Monday 12 to Friday 16 October 2020 (October Week)

### December - Christmas and New Year

- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 22 December 2020
- Wednesday 23 December 2020 to Tuesday 5 January 2021 (Christmas holidays)

## School term dates 2021

### January

- Schools return on Wednesday 6 January 2021

### February Mid-term break

- Friday 5 February 2021
- Monday 8 February 2021
- Tuesday 9 February 2021
- Wednesday 10 February 2021 (In-service day)

### April - Spring Holiday (Easter)

- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Thursday 1 April 2021
- Good Friday 2 April 2021
- Easter Monday 5 April 2021
- Schools return on Monday 19 April 2021

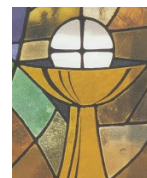
### May

- Monday 3 May 2021 (May Holiday)
- Thursday 6 May 2021 (In-Service day to coincide with Scottish Parliament Elections)
- Friday 28 May 2021 and Monday, 31 May 2021 (May Weekend)

### June

- Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Thursday 24 June 2021

## First Holy Communion



As a strong faith community, we were very disappointed for last year's Primary 4 children who were unable to receive the Blessed Sacrament for the first time on the days that they should have celebrated their First Holy Communion.

Fr Byrne and I have had extensive discussions about the best way forward so that the children can make the Sacrament. Together, we feel that, with on-going restrictions around numbers in Church and the extensive social distancing that is still in place, that postponing the celebrations until next May/June 2021 would be the best course of action. This means that both P4 and P5 would make the Sacrament together in May/June 2021. If you feel that you would like to discuss your child making the Sacrament earlier than this, please let myself or Fr Bryne know as soon as possible.

## Room 10—Art/R.E Room

In order to facilitate non-class contact time for teachers, Ms Jones will now teach the majority of classes in Room 10 for 2.5 hour blocks meaning there will be two classes using room 10 most days. She will teach an Art lesson and aspects of R.E to each class. On these days, the first class will use it in the morning and the other in the afternoon. Tables will be wiped down when the first class leaves.

## TORYGLEN AFTER SCHOOL SERVICE LTD.

Tel: 0141 613 3098  
Company No. SC273148  
Charity No. SCO35930

Did you know that you may be entitled to help with your childcare if receiving Universal Credits, Childcare Vouchers, Tax Credits and/or College Payments?

**Toryglen After School** have spaces available for Term Time, Holiday Cover & In-service days.

Parents/Carers are welcome to pop along at any time and see round the playrooms at the Geoff Shaw centre, meet the staff and see what they have to offer.

**Contact Suzanne on Tel: 0141 613 3098 for more information.**





## REASON

All Pupil  
Sickness Related  
Absences

Medical / Dental  
Appointments  
for up to one day

## WHEN

From 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>  
day of sickness.  
Report before 09:30 hrs\*

Up to 4 weeks in advance  
or on the day  
for emergencies

## CONTACT

**Pupil  
Absence  
Reporting  
Team**

www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence

\*Absences reported after 09:30 hrs may result in Parent/Carer receiving notification from the school that the pupil is absent

\*It is essential that all schools monitor the responses from parents/carers after TBCs have been sent.  
Schools should then update the pupil's register with the appropriate absence code.

### Any other reasons including:

- Religious / Parental holiday requests
- Illness of a family member
- Children's panel
- Funerals
- Bereavements
- All exceptional circumstances
- All other appointments

In advance  
or  
on the day

Parent to  
phone school

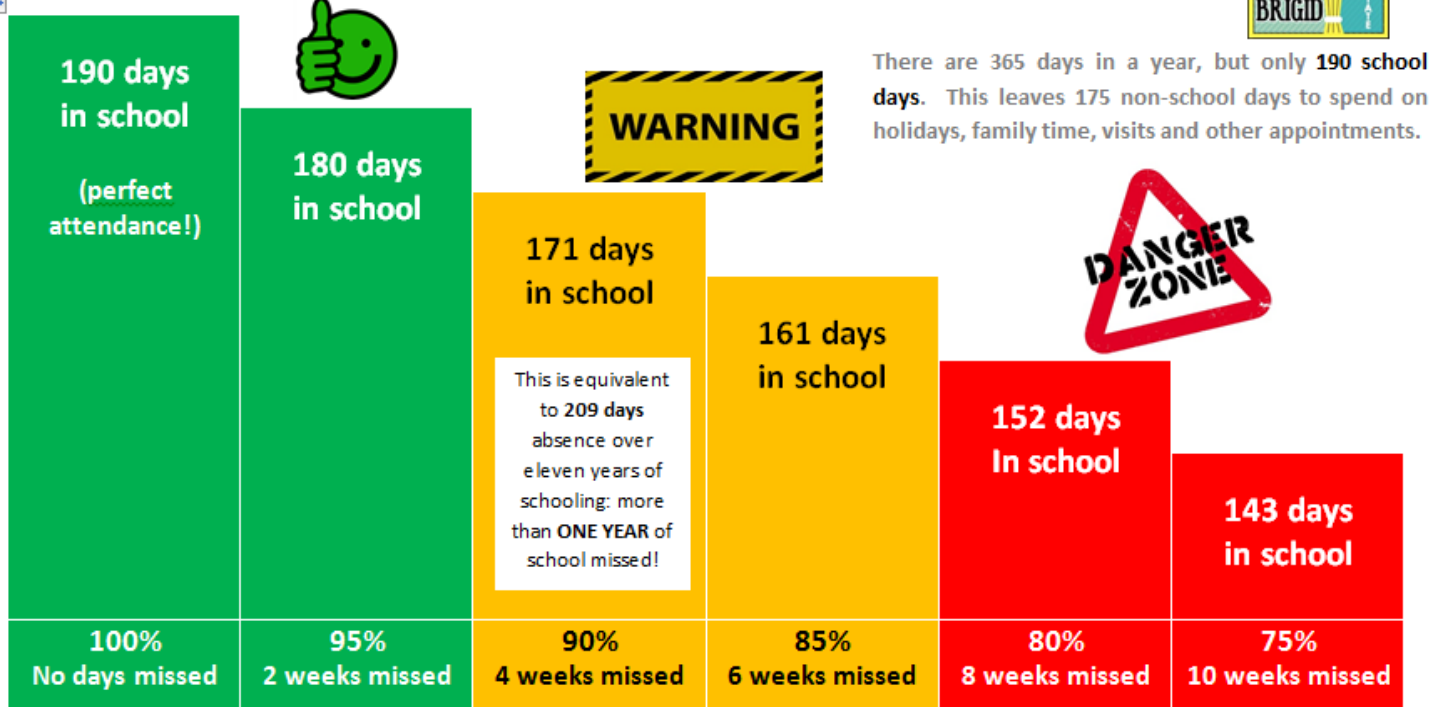
Further info please visit [www.Glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence](http://www.Glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence)

## Pupil Absence Line

Phone: 0141 287 0039

Website: [www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence)

## Understanding your child's attendance percentage



There are 365 days in a year, but only 190 school days. This leaves 175 non-school days to spend on holidays, family time, visits and other appointments.

This level of attendance gives your child the **best possible chance** of making good progress and having success in their learning

This level of attendance is **worrying**. It will make it harder for your child to make good progress and they are less likely to have success in their learning

This level of attendance is **extremely concerning**. It will be very difficult for your child to make good progress in their learning and there is likely to be a serious impact on their success in school



**ATTENDANCE MATTERS... every school day counts!**



**Please see information on previous page of the newsletter regarding absence reporting processes and procedures.**

## Outdoor Learning

Please make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for working outdoors, including a rain jacket and suitable foot wear. Taking learning outdoors is a major feature of our curriculum at the moment and children should be prepared for working outdoors in our weather which, as we know, is often very unpredictable.



## School Lunches &



## Breakfast Club

### Free school meals P1-P4

A reminder that all P1-P4 children are entitled to a free school meal. Those children who qualify for a free school meal in P5-P7 must apply on-line at [www.glasgow.gov.uk](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk)

### Cashless system for Breakfast club and school lunches

**A little reminder that as of Monday 17th August, there will be a cashless system in place for breakfast club/lunch payments.** Meals can be purchased at a cost of £1:90 per day and breakfast club is £2 per day.

If you require the relevant information for your child/ren then please reply to the text we sent last week or phone the school.

Everyone who has contacted the school already should have received their information by email. However, if there are any issues please get in touch with the school.

### **Contact us:**

St Brigid's Primary School  
4 Glenmore Avenue  
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/>

### **Parent Council email address:**

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

## E-mail addresses & Communication

We are hoping to move to a completely paperless system for communicating developments and celebrating successes in school. In light of the current circumstances we feel that this is the best time to ask families for a current e-mail contact. Please use this box to write your e-mail address clearly and in large lettering so that there is no confusion with letters, numbers or dots. Please return to school as soon as possible.



Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child/ren's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

