

St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



December 2021 In truth and love

From the Head Teacher's desk

ecember has arrived again in the blink of an eye following an incredibly busy few months. The season of Advent marks the start of the Christian year. It is the four weeks before Christmas. This is the time for Christians to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus and look forward to the time that Jesus will come again.

As with this time last year, we continue to face difficult times with uncertainties due to the pandemic; let us look to this season of Advent to bring us hope to overcome our difficulties as we keep in mind the peace, love and joy of the season.

In November, our P6 & P7 classes attended First Friday Mass in St Brigid's Church. This is the first time children have celebrated Mass together since February 2020. We are delighted that the children are able to attend Mass again. On Friday the 3rd of December our P5 classes will attend First Friday Mass in St Brigid's.

We have also spent time celebrating Catholic Education week. The theme for this year's week was Celebrating and Worshipping. This is a particularly important and relevant theme as the Bishops of Scotland have just agreed to reinstate the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation. This will be reinstated from Sunday 2nd January 2022, the first of the new year.

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome small groups of P1, P2 & P3 Parents and Carers into the school during November—we hope that you were able to get a flavour of school life.

Furthermore, we are very grateful to our Parents and Carers who purchased the children's personalised artwork. There was a fabulous response to this resulting in roughly £200+ for school funds. Every order placed helped to raise money for our children.

Congratulations to 16 of our P7 children who made the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 24th of November. Please continue to keep the children in your prayers.

I am delighted to reveal that the winning house group for September to November is Mercury. Mercury will attend the Panto Sleeping Beauty at Rutherglen Town Hall on Wednesday 8th of December in the afternoon.

Thank you again to all children, staff, parents and partners who have worked tirelessly for our children over the last year. A detailed list of Christmas activities can be found overleaf.

I wish you all a very peaceful and holy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Paul Cassidy Head Teacher





In an attempt to remove all cash and cheques from our school, I have written to all Parents & Carers about our online payment solution called ParentPay.

ParentPay will be used to pay for all meals, school trips, concert tickets, uniform, dress down days etc going forward.

PLEASE ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT ASAP USING THE DETAILS ON YOUR LETTER

If you have any issues or can't find your letter, please contact the school office.

Parent Council 2021-2022

Please see an updated list of Parent Council members—there was one member left out in last newsletter. Sorry about that.

*Co-chairs Christine Martin (P6)

Terry Strain (P2)

Vice Chair Dawn McKenna (P4)
Treasurer Louise Williams (P1b)

Secretary Vacancy

Other members

Jill Curran (P7b), Catherine Mostakim (P7a), Leeann Friel, (P7a&b), Maria McGarvey (P7b), Roseann Connor (5b), Hardev Singh (P2)Simon McGrory (Church Rep)

*Co-chairs until March to provide an extended handover to Terry in the hope that more and more events will be able to take place as the year progresses.

The Parent Council can help with general issues such as traffic outside the school and fundraising for events and resources. They can be contacted on:

st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

If you have a specific issue relating to your child then you would continue to contact the school management team.

St Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) at St Brigid's Toryglen is a charitable organisation which aims to provide support and financial assistance primarily to families living in the Toryglen area.

I refer to the letter sent out on Monday the 22nd of November where the SSVP explained that they provide a bag of groceries to a number of families in the period a week or so before Christmas each year. Please remember to return any slips to the box available at St Brigid's at the school office. **Friday 3rd of December is the deadline.**

If you require another letter, please contact the school office.

Christmas Activities 2022

Unlike last year, we are pleased that we can offer more activities this Christmas. It does remain, however, a source of extreme disappointment that parent and carers can not attend our Christmas Show. I have engaged a professional cameraman who will film both the P1-P2 nativity and our P3-P7 show. This will be uploaded to our YouTube channel shortly after filming. The filming will take place on Thursday the 9th of December and all children must wear their school uniform that day.

The school show normally provides us with a significant amount of funds due to our ticket sales. In the last two years, we have not been able to sell tickets and as a result our school funds need a boost. I would ask that a small donation of £2.00 is made to the school from each family. This will need to be done through ParentPay—selecting the Donation for Show School payment option. Please do this before Friday 17th of December.

Here are the events that we have planned:

<u> 29.11.2021—17.12.2021</u>

Decorate the classroom door competition for Christmas—Winners to be announced on Tuesday 21st of December & Father Byrne will judge the competition. The prize will be a snack and Christmas movie in the hall that afternoon.

09.12.2021

Recording of Christmas Nativity & Play

15.12.2021

Christmas lunch in the canteen with Christmas music. Children can wear Christmas jumpers if they wish.

20.12.2021

Christmas Carols in St Brigid's Church. P1-P4 are from 11:00-12:00 and P5-P7 are 1:30-2:30. As there are no restrictions with people being in churches, parent and carers can attend. Our Baby Strings videos will also be available at some point this week.

21.12.2021

Break the rules day —fundraiser for Parent Council—poster is attached to this newsletter with payment details. There will also be more Parent Council fundraising activities that day—details to follow.

22.12.2021

Parish St Vincent De Paul Society to give a special gift to all children.

Christmas Parties in individual classes.

School closes for **Christmas Holiday**



Wednesday 22 December at **2:30pm** and re-opens Wednesday 5 January 2022

E-mail addresses

Thanks to all parents and carers who have given us their e-mail addresses.



If you know anyone who is not receiving e-mails, please ask them to contact the school so that they can provide us with one.

Blairvadach 2021

We wish P7 children and staff the best of luck on



their Blairvadach adventure this month. Enjoy!

Contact us:

St Brigid's Primary School 4 Glenmore Avenue Glasgow G42 0EH 0141 647 3952



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

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

Parent Council email address: st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Attendance

Below is some handy information about attendance—please read carefully and remember to inform the absence line if your child is going to be absent on **0141 287 0039** or using the website www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence

Understanding your child's attendance percentage



+	190 days in school (perfect attendance!)	180 days in school	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.			
			171 days in school	161 days	PAR	GER
			This is equivalent to 209 days absence over eleven years of schooling: more than ONE YEAR of school missed!	in school	152 days In school	143 days in school
	100% No days missed	95% 2 weeks missed	90% 4 weeks missed	85% 6 weeks missed	80% 8 weeks missed	75% 10 weeks missed

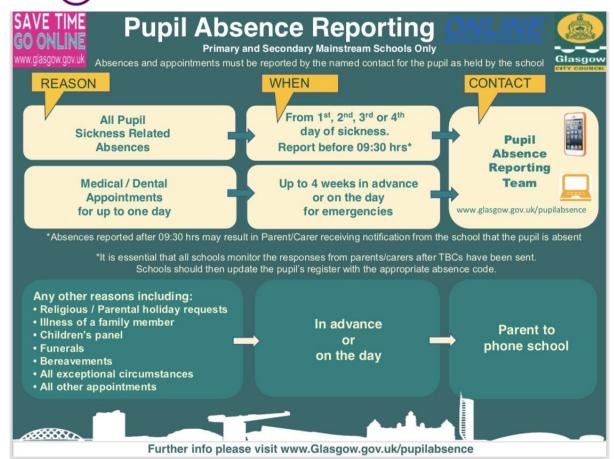
This level of attendance gives your child the best possible chance of making good progress and having success in their learning

This level of attendance is worrying. It will make it harder for your child to make good progress and

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS... every school day counts!



St. Brigid's Primary are having a



Tuesday 21st December 2021

The Rules:

You must wear school uniform.
You must have tidy hair.
You must have a healthy snack.
You must have matching socks.
You must not have temporary
tattoos or nail polish.

For every rule you break you will be fined 50p – so if you break all 5 rules it will cost you £2.50.

All money raised will go to Parent Council funds and as such cash should be brought into school. ParentPay should not be used on this occasion.