



St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



January 2021

In truth and love

From the Head Teacher's desk

Happy New Year everyone! I hope that you all had a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year. When we finished up on the 22nd of December 2020, we did so at the end of an incredibly difficult year for us all and as we start 2021 with a period of school closure, we continue to experience prolonged disruption to our lives. However, this time we have the hope that the vaccines will make the future a little brighter for the rest of the year.

Our Christmas celebrations in school were very different this year, however we did what we could to ensure that our children were able to mark the season. My thanks to our Support for Learning Workers and Ms Jones who ensured that the school was looking festive with our Christmas tree and Nativity scene as well as Christmas art work in and around classrooms. As ever our P1 children made us incredibly proud as they preformed their Nativity play virtually. Children from P5-P7 were able to add to the video with some outdoor, socially distanced singing. The children also decorated their classroom doors for a competition which contributed to the festive feel. The winning class was P5/4 and they enjoyed a film and snacks in the assembly hall. Thanks to Fr Byrne for being our judge for the Christmas door competition and for sending the children a lovely Christmas message.

We were very grateful to our Parish St Vincent de Paul Society, who donated a selection box for each and every one of our children. Many thanks to the SVDP for this generous gift. The P1-p3 children also got a special visitor too. Also, all children had a Christmas party in class.

I would also like to say a massive thank you to all parents and carers who have worked hard with Home Learning last week. We have been very impressed by the engagement and work completed by the children. I am delighted to report that over 85% of our families have engaged with Showbie over the first week of home learning. We are in the process of contacting the rest of our families to offer support so that all children can access their work online. You will be asked to complete a survey shortly on how you are finding Home Learning. Teachers have been working very hard to provide the best online learning experience for children as they completely change the way that they deliver lessons. They are all looking forward to catching up with the children by phone.

Paul Cassidy Head Teacher

Archbishop Tartaglia RIP

It is with heartfelt regret that we heard the news, that on the feast of St Mungo, Archbishop Tartaglia passed away suddenly. He was a wonderful supporter of Catholic schools and loved being around children. Please keep his family, the Archdiocese and most importantly, the Archbishop in your prayers. Requiescat In Pace.

“We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will take back with Jesus those who have died believing in him.” 1 Thessalonians 4:14



Staffing

I would like to share the news that Mrs Simpson (P1a) and Mrs O'Neill (P3/2) have now started their maternity leaves. We wish them all the best and are looking forward to meeting the new arrivals. Mrs Simpson's class is continuing to be covered by Mrs Moretti and Mrs O'Neill's class is continuing to be covered by Mr White.

Mrs Wishart, DHT, continues to be absent and elements of her post are being covered by Mrs O' Neill PT (P6b). This means that Mr Steven Paterson will continue to oversee the work of P6b. We are trying to change the name on Showbie; please bear with us.

There are two absences at the moment which means that myself and the senior leadership team are having to cover most of the supervision for the children who are in school. More generally, our senior staff have agreed to doing increased hours supervising in school so that class teachers are available daily for children. Please be aware that as ever we will respond to any enquiries as soon as we possibly can. Please also be aware that our child protection responsibilities and those for tracking and tracing are still on-going.

Baby Strings



I am delighted to inform you that we are extending the Baby Strings programme to P6. P7 have already had the opportunity to learn the violin from Ms Black, our visiting specialist from Holyrood.

A wee reminder that Baby Strings is part of Glasgow City Council's CREATE music programme, which was set up in January 2016 by Glasgow Education Services to raise attainment and achievement across city schools.

The programme will now involve all P1 to P6 children learning to play either the violin, viola or cello as part of a string orchestra. As the school is now closed to the majority of pupils, videos will be posted on Showbie to look at developing children's musicianship. Please look out for them.



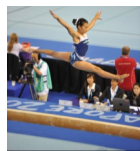
Parish Food Bank



St Brigid's Parish Food Bank can be accessed Mondays between 11am and 12 noon and on Fridays between 3pm and 4pm.

If accessing this service please go to the committee room which is the white door that can be seen from Prospec Hill Rd. Please phone the Parish if you are unsure where to go on 0141 647 3585.

Gymnastics Equipment



As we have not been able to participate in sports' competitions this session, we have been able to save money on transport and as a result, we purchased a new vaulting table and balance beam for the gym.

We are looking forward to being able to use the gym properly as restrictions begin to ease. Fingers crossed in the near future!

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

Glasgow City Council website:

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

Parent Council email address:

st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk



Assemblies

I will upload a weekly assembly for children on Wednesday afternoons to the class discussion boards just before 2. These will cover a range of themes.



I will also play some hymns for the children and ensure that the words are posted in Showbie so that children can join in.

House Points



The winning house group for September to November was Mars. The children came together in the assembly hall to watch a Christmas movie and had some treats on the afternoon of Friday the 4th of December. This involved fewer than 50 children and was socially distanced in accordance with Scottish Government Guidelines.

Well done team Mars!

The Bubble Room

Our school counselling service is still available throughout the school closure. Maggie Payne will already have made contact with those who currently access the resource to offer support. If you feel that you could make use of this service—children or adults then contact the school.

Home Learning Survey

Please remember to complete the Home Learning survey for parents/carers.



The link has been emailed with this newsletter.

February Break

The school will be closed from Friday 5 February to Thursday 11 February 2021. Wednesday is an In-Service Day.

