



St Brigid's Primary Newsletter



March/April 2021

In truth and love

From the Head Teacher's desk

Thanks ☆

We are delighted to welcome back all of our children and staff on the 15th of March 2021. It has been an extremely difficult few months and I hope that this full time return heralds the beginning of getting back to normality. A few weeks ago our P1-P3 children returned and I wish to thank everyone for ensuring that our school reopened in a safe manner. The school has been so calm and P1-P3 children have settled in very well. I continue to be thrilled with the result of our combined efforts and everyone should be very proud of how smoothly we have opened the school in these challenging circumstances.

We need to continue to work hard in the next phase of school reopening to follow the guidance so we can live our lives as we did prior to the lockdown in March 2020. I wish to take this opportunity to thank every one of our children, our families and school staff for their support with children's learning online and the determination shown in ensuring that we made the best of a very difficult time for us all. You have truly worked miracles!

In this newsletter, you will be reminded of the information on the practical arrangements which you need to know about as we welcome our P4-P7 children back. Please look out for any new information too. As in August 2020, 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 will continue to be facilitated throughout the day by teaching and support staff. In addition, resuming staggered breaks will ensure that everyone comes into minimal contact with others who are not in their class. All children should wear their uniforms on the days that they do not have P.E. There is a reminder of the days overleaf.

With current restrictions, there will be no face to face Parent's Evening this term. As there has been a lot of contact between parents and teachers I feel that a further consultation before the Easter break is not necessary for everyone. If however, you wish to speak with your child's teacher, then please indicate this on the electronic survey link e-mailed with this newsletter.

Please note that you should now contact

- Mrs R O'Neill, DHT if your child is in P1-P4 and you have a concern or wish to contact the school
- Ms MC Shaw DHT if your child is in P5-P7 and you have a concern or wish to contact the school

I am also very happy to share the news that Mrs Wishart has given birth to a baby boy – welcome to the world Louis Alastair Wishart. My warmest congratulations to the family.

Paul Cassidy Head Teacher

Sacraments

Fr Byrne and I are delighted that later in the month, the capacity in Churches will increase to 50. This will help with our planning for children who wish to make their Sacraments. Teaching for the Sacraments will take place in school. First Confession will take place on **Wednesday 31st of March 2021** for P3 children at 6:00pm in St Brigid's Parish Church.



The dates for First Holy Communion (P4 & P5 children) and Confirmation (P7 Children) will be published in due course. You will shortly receive a link to a survey; please indicate if you wish your child to receive the appropriate Sacrament so that the Parish and school can plan appropriately together.

P1 enrolments for August 2021

A virtual tour of our school for our prospective P1 parents/carers for August 2021 can be found on our Twitter page as the pinned Tweet.

You can still enrol by registering on line through Glasgow City Council's website in the School and Learning Section under Starting Primary School.

We are so sorry we can't meet in person with current restrictions.

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/carer. 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.

High Expectations— School Uniform

The children all look very smart in their uniforms. Please continue to support our full uniform policy as this helps children to feel included and to be proud of their school.

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
- ✓ 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 Clothing Grants and Free School Meals.

What to bring to school.....



Children should bring a school bag with their water bottle and lunch if applicable. Please make sure they are full as we are not currently using the water coolers. If your child drinks a lot of water, then please consider putting two bottles in their bags. There is also water available at lunch time.

Toys from home are not permitted in school for the foreseeable future.

All children will receive their own set of resources - please do not send your child to school with pencil cases or any stationery from home. Thank you for understanding.

Mobile Phones



To keep all children safe, children may not have phones with them in class, around the school or in the playground.

As we cannot guarantee phones will be safe and Glasgow City Council has no insurance for personal items, mobile phones **should not** be brought to school. I am happy to discuss this on the phone.

Breakfast Club / Lunch (Dining Hall) arrangements



Breakfast club will run from 8:00am to 9:00am.

Children who are entitled to a free school meal will use the dining hall. Children who have a packed lunch will continue to eat their lunch in class or outside if the weather is good.

Some free school lunches may be delivered to classrooms in order to ease the amount of pressure on the serving times in the dining hall. We do not want to rush children to finish their lunch. Please note that as with all aspects of our return to school, this and other arrangements are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated to parents/carers.

Please remember to check if you are eligible and apply for free school meals and/or clothing grant using this link—<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning>

World Book Day 2021

It was wonderful to be able to celebrate World Book Day. Here are some of the highlights:

- Virtual author visit for the whole school from Angela Proctor who donated books to the school
- P1-P3 received their Bookbug and Read, Write, Count, Bags
- P1-P3 completed a Where's Wally hunt
- P4-P7 took part in virtual author and illustrator events
- A variety of reading activities across all classes
- Mr Cassidy read an extract for an assembly on Showbie
- We held a reading in an unusual place competition and winners will be announced when all children have returned

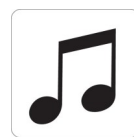
Baby Strings



A wee reminder 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.

The 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.



PE days

Please remember that on P.E days your child(ren) should come to school ready for Outdoor P.E. They need to wear appropriate clothing and have an warm outdoor jacket. Outdoor P.E will continue until further notice.



**P1a Mondays & Tuesdays
P1b Mondays & Thursdays
P2 Mondays & Tuesdays
P3/2 Tuesdays & Wednesdays
P3 Monday & Thursdays
P4 Tuesday & Thursdays
P5/4 Wednesdays & Fridays
P5 Wednesdays & Fridays
P6a Tuesdays & Fridays
P6b Wednesdays & Thursdays
P7a Wednesdays & Thursdays
P7b Mondays & Fridays**

School term dates 2021

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 Week-end)

June

- Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Thursday 24 June 2021

Enhanced cleaning provision

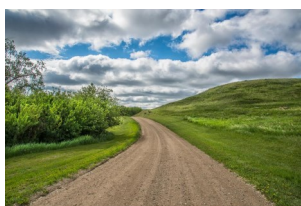


A rigorous approach to environmental cleaning will continue to be implemented to prevent the spread of the virus. Our current before and afterschool cleaning regime is enhanced by our day cleaner, Jacky Tierney everyday from 10:00am-2:00pm.

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 they need to sanitise an area at any point.

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.



Afterschool care



If you need to access afterschool care provision, then please contact GAP Childcare Govanhill on the details below.



Contact: Jacqueline Gray
Phone: 0141 424 0448

Alternative Phone: 07702654290

Email: gapchildcare@btconnect.com

Address: Govanhill Neighbourhood Centre, 6 Daisy Street, Glasgow, G42 8JL

E-mail addresses & Communication



Almost all correspondence is now through e-mail. Please ensure, that if you are not receiving e-mails, that you first check your junk mail and if there are no e-mails from the school then contact the office to ensure that the e-mail address that we have on file is both accurate and current.

Text messages will continue to be used however, when highlighting an absence.

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/>

Parent Council email address:

st.brigidsparentcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Social Distancing



There remains no requirement for children to socially distance from each other. Indoors, the children will continue to 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 will be maintained at all times between adults and adults, as well as adults and children to support a safe environment.

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

REASON

All Pupil
Sickness Related
Absences

Medical / Dental
Appointments
for up to one day

WHEN

From 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th
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

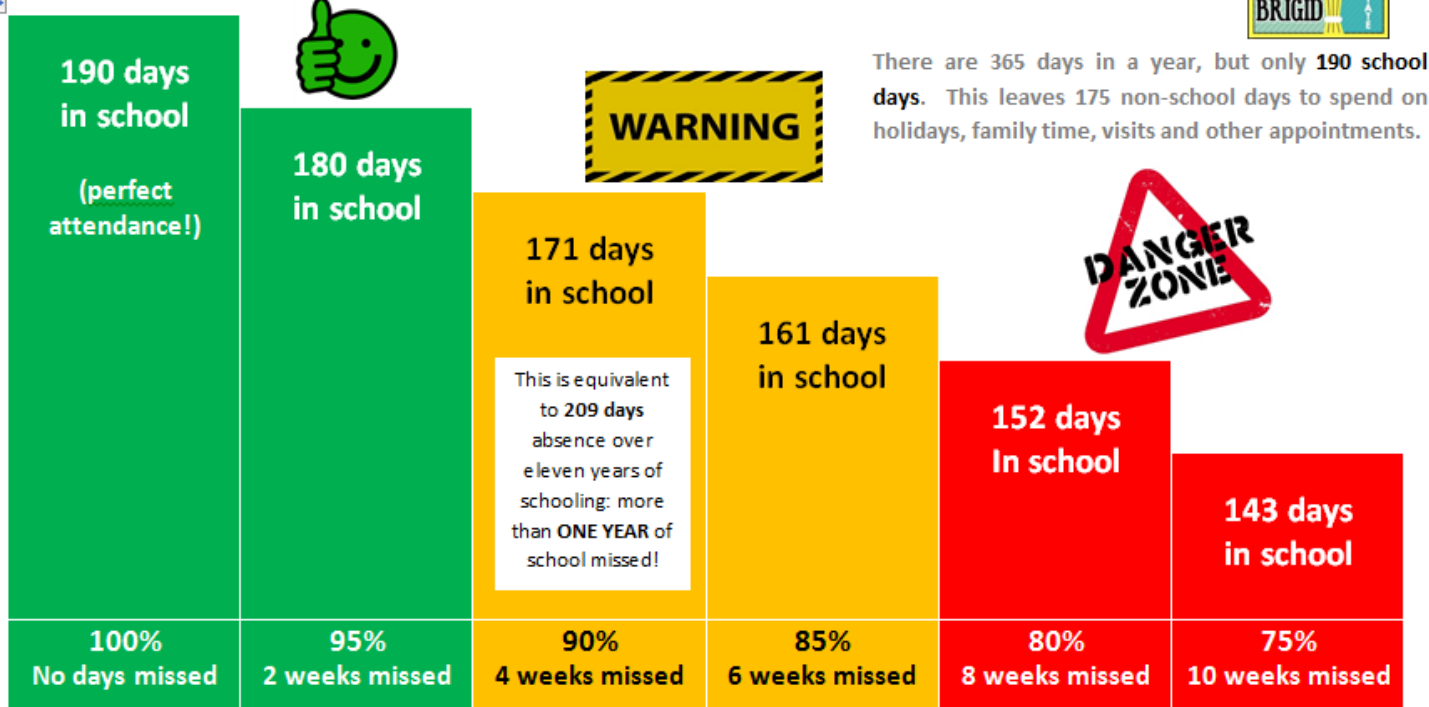
Further info please visit www.Glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence

Pupil Absence Line

Phone: 0141 287 0039

Website: 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!