



St Brendan's Primary & Nursery



Newsletter – 3rd October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of our first term, I am delighted at how well the children particularly our Primary 1 children have settled into school life. Next term is looking very busy and we want to take this opportunity to share with you some important information for the month ahead.

Weather

The days are much colder and although our school is very cosy, the children will still be playing outside, weather permitting so they need to be well wrapped up. Please ensure your child is suitably dressed for this weather. For their comfort they also need to have a pair of indoor shoes (gym shoes) to change into in class. Please check your child has softer indoor shoes that still fit.

School Security

The safety and security of your children is our priority at all times, the following school procedures are in place to ensure the safety of your children.

- Latecoming – please encourage your child to come to the school office if they are late even if only by a few minutes, your child could be marked off on the register and an absence text sent out, this can be distressing to the parent.
- School Bus – we now have 33 children entitled to school transport, we ask you to complete the transport slip given out on Friday and return to office on Monday, this is a great help to our staff who everyday ensure your child is where they should be at 3.00pm.
- Clydesdale After School Club – please contact CASC and school by 2pm if you have a change to your arrangements, there sometimes can be confusion and young children are not always sure of where they are going.



Congratulations

Lovely news for Mrs Williamson and Mrs Colton who have both had baby boys. We send them our love and best wishes at this special time.

Outdoor Learning

The children will be involved in outdoor learning activities on the **first Thursday of every month**, therefore we would ask that children bring appropriate footwear e.g. wellies or old trainers with them on this day. Although we have some outdoor clothing if your child has a waterproof jacket please bring this too. Children will be working outside and clothes may get dirty/muddy. Outdoors is an extremely valuable learning environment and we hope you understand and support us. Children work best when they are comfortable and not worried about keeping clothes clean.

Settling In Parents' Evening

Our Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 13th October, this is a settling in review which the children are invited to. The meetings will be held in your child's classroom, this will allow your child to show you where they work hard and learn. Appointments will be given out later this week. If you have not yet returned your slip requesting an appointment please contact school office.

If you are unable to attend Parents' Evening please contact the school office after the October holiday and another appointment can be made.

Non Uniform Day

On Friday 14th October we will have a non uniform day, pupils are invited to come to school wearing their casual clothes. There will be a 'fine' of £1 for the privilege. All money raised will go to school funds. **(NO FOOTBALL COLOURS)**.



Photographs

The photographer will be in school and nursery week beginning 7th November, more details to follow.

Christmas Pantomime

This year we have booked 'Peter Pan' at Motherwell Civic Centre on Wednesday 23rd November. More information to follow.

Dogs

As you know many of our staff and children are animal lovers, however, some children are frightened of dogs and in line with NLC Policy dogs are not permitted in the school playground.

Parent Council Meeting

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th November at 6.00pm, all parents as part of the Parent Forum are welcome to attend.



Homework

Stressed? Worried? Anxious about homework? We are happy to help!

A homework drop in service will be available for children accompanied by their parents or carers every Wednesday after school from 3pm to 4pm. A Teacher will be available to help you and your child with any issues regarding homework, for any parents unable to attend but have concerns regarding homework please email ht@st-brendans.n-lanark.sch.uk and a Teacher will respond.

This service is for issues regarding homework only, please note a different teacher will be on homework duty each week.

Parent Fundraising Group

The Parent Fundraising Group have decided to "rest" the School Calendar this year and instead would like to produce School Christmas Cards. I'm sure many of you have received these from friends or family members, where their child's Christmas drawing is on the card. The children draw their designs onto specially sized drawing templates and which have the child's name and class on the back. This is then turned into packs of Christmas Cards and parents can then order the amount they require to send out to their friends and family.

This is very successful in numerous other schools and the Fundraising Group thought that our children would like to try it. Please note that the School Calendar could return in future if parents felt that there was enough demand for it.

In light of this, if there are any parents or friends of the school who have any printing contacts, please contact the school office or email the Parent Fundraising Group at stbrendansfundraising@yahoo.com. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Halloween Activity Afternoon

We will hold a Halloween Activity Afternoon in our classroom on Monday 31st October from 1.20-3pm. Children will be involved in a wide range of activities whilst enjoying being dressed up for the occasion (if they wish). Children will receive a small Halloween treat.

If you are collecting your child at lunchtime please come to school office at 12.30pm.

Fundraising Night in aid of Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Children

A fundraising night will be held on Friday 25th November to help raise money for Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Children, this has been arranged by Mrs Katie Groome who has a daughter in our school (also known as Katie). Last year Katie was seriously ill and was treated at Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Children. If you would like to attend the evening or donate money please contact School office or Mrs Groome at groomekatie@gmail.com or 07949 986219. A copy of the letter with details will be available on school app and twitter.

MacMillan Coffee Morning Thursday 6th October

The School Enterprise Committee are hosting a coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support, this will take place after first Thursday Mass in the school hall, all welcome. We are looking for shop bought donations to be handed into school as soon as possible.

Please support this fundraising event.

Growth Mindset

In a **growth mindset**, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment.

This year the school as part of our Improvement Agenda is developing a Growth Mindset culture, we are holding a workshop which will be led by Annie Patterson our Educational Psychologist on Wednesday 26th October at 6.00pm to 7.00pm, this will be an introduction to Growth Mindset for our parents and carers. We look forward to seeing you at the workshop.

Primary 7 Transition Meeting Wednesday 26th October 7.00pm

This is a very important meeting for parents and carers of Primary 7 children who will be attending OLHS next year. Mr McQuillan Head of Lower School along with staff from OLHS will host this meeting. This is the first transition meeting of this academic year.

St Brendan's Parish

Bishop Toal will visit St Brendan's Parish at 7.00pm on Thursday 6th October to outline his plans for the Parish. The meeting will be held in the Church Hall. All welcome.

Water Bottles

PLEASE discourage your children from flipping their water bottles, this latest craze is dangerous and has caused several accidents. Water bottles are essential to the children but must be used appropriately.

Parking - Reminder

The school car park is for staff use only.

For the safety of our children please do not park on zig zag lines outside the school.

Hair Checking

Once a Week – Take a Peek - Please check your child's hair on a regular basis. Treatment can be prescribed by your doctor or bought from your local chemist. It is advisable for children with long hair to wear it tied back.

TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter at StBrendansPS

[Blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendans](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendans)

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Oates
Head Teacher