



St Brendan's Primary & Nursery

"Voyaging Together as a Community of Faith, Love and Learning"



Newsletter – 26th September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our September/October Newsletter, the children have all settled into their new classes. Once again the children all look so smart in their school uniform, we thank you for your continued support.

The end of this term and next term are looking very busy and we want to take this opportunity to share with you some important information.

School App

The school app links to Twitter and our St Brendan's PS website, we will also be able to text you through the app. The app also contains a school calendar of events. You will be able to sign up for notifications.

The app is password protected. To receive the password we ask for a donation of £2 per family.

Thank you to everyone who has paid their £2 (per family). Can we encourage those who have not paid to hand it in as soon as possible?

September/October Holidays

School will be closed to pupils on the following days: Friday 27th & Monday 30th September
Monday 14th to Friday 18th October

School re-opens on Monday 21st October at 8.55am.

Can I also remind parents/carers that school starts at 8.55am daily, it is important your child is in the school line for this time.

Annual Data Check Forms/Consent Forms

We still have a number of parent/carers who have not yet returned the Annual Data/EV5 form. Can you please do so as soon as possible? This will allow us to update all school records.

Birthday Cake

Due to several children in school having severe allergies we are no longer able to allow birthday cakes to be brought in to school. To avoid disappointment please do not hand a birthday cake into school as it will be returned to you.

Congratulations

Lovely news for Mr and Mrs O'Donnell on the birth of their baby son Shea.
We send them our love and best wishes at this special time.



Absence

If your child is unwell please telephone the school each day they are absent. If possible, children should also bring a note to school on their return.

Parent Council Meetings

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 6.00pm. As a member of our Parent Forum you are welcome to attend the meeting.

A copy of the minutes of meetings will be available for all parents/carers to read in the school foyer.

'The Lion King' Edinburgh Playhouse

As you are aware the whole school are going to the matinee performance of 'The Lion King' on Wednesday 15th January 2020 at Edinburgh Playhouse. **If you chose to pay by instalments we ask you to continue with this as payment must be received in full no later than Friday 15th November.** Cost per child is £20.

If for any reason your child will not be attending please contact the school to confirm this as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs Oates if you need to discuss payment for your child's ticket.

Our new children and all Primary 1 children should now have received a letter with all the details, please contact the school office if you did not receive this.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club runs from 8.15am daily and costs £1 per day. Primary 1 to Primary 3 children and also children entitled to free school meals do not pay for this service. The children will be allowed to play outside from 8.45am when the janitor will join them to supervise. Our Breakfast Club is supervised for children using this service, we do not have supervision for children being dropped off at school before 8.45am.

Dinner Money

A number of children have outstanding money due for school dinners/breakfast club. This is not only additional work for school staff but can cause upset and embarrassment to your child. Please check your child's account and ensure there is sufficient funds on a daily basis. Should you require password for online payments please contact school office. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals please contact school office. Should you wish to discuss this further please contact Mrs Oates.

Parental Involvement

Our school welcomes any support parents can offer during the school day, be it in time or expertise. We also require help with school outings. If you feel you can help, please contact the school. We have a very active Parent Council and Fundraising Group who meet on a regular basis. If you would like to join or feel you could help at some events please go along to one of the meetings, where you will be made most welcome.

Parent Fundraising Group

We are very grateful to the Parent Fundraising group for all their hard work and efforts throughout the year. Without their continued support we would not be able to afford our children so many wonderful opportunities.

Aldi

The school is taking part in the Aldi's Kit for Schools competition. If you or any family members are shopping at Aldi please collect stickers and send them into school.

School Fundraising

Congratulations and a big thank you to Lucy P7 who cycled around Millport and raised £550.00 for school funds. This money will be used to provide Peer Mediation training to the Primary 7 children and this in turn will benefit the whole school.

Junior Road Safety Officers

Our JRSO are Sarah P7 and Jamie P6. We wish them every success in their new role.

Pupil Council

Congratulations to our newly elected Pupil Council:

P1	Sarah	P4/3	Lucy	P6	Carmen and Lewis
P2/1	Millie-Rose	P4	Abbie	P7/6	Demaria and Lucas
P2	Conall	P5B	Marcus and Rebekkah	P7	Chloe and Liam
P3	Louisa	P5F	Christopher and Poppy		

We wish them every success in their new role.

Swimming Programme

Our Primary 5 children will start the swimming programme on Tuesday 17th March, more information will be given to the Primary 5 children at the beginning of the year.

School Clothing Reminder

Please label all items of clothing as items get mislaid on a daily basis and it is difficult to identify the owner if no name is marked.

Lost property is in the school foyer and will also be available at Parents' Evening. After this all unclaimed items will be taken to a charity shop.

P.E.

As you are aware, all children receive two/three sessions of P.E. per week. P.E. kits should be brought to school on a Monday and taken home on a Friday. Please label all items!

IMPORTANT - Please ensure children do not wear jewellery on these days. If jewellery is worn, it will be placed in an envelope and given to the child to put in their school bag.

Water Bottles Reminder

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school on a daily basis. Only water should be in bottles, unless otherwise discussed with class teacher or myself. If your child's water bottle needs replacing this must be a clear bottle with 'sports top'.

Follow us on Twitter at [StBrendansPS](#) and [Blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendans](#).

Settling In Parents' Evening

Our Parents' Evening will be held on Thursday 10th 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.

The Parents Evening Booking System will be available from Tuesday 1st October 7.00pm. Parents/carers will be able to book their appointment online. Children will be given a letter with the link and instructions to book appointments. Please contact school office if you are unable to book an appointment.

If for any reason you are unable to attend Parents' Evening on the above date you will be contacted after the October holiday to book an appointment.

Primary 7 Transition Meeting Wednesday 9th October 6.00pm

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

Primary 7 Transition Visit Thursday 24th October

Our primary 7 children will be visiting OLHS on Thursday 24th October. Further information to follow.

Kilbowie Information Evening

An information evening for our P7 children and parents/carers will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 7.00pm. If your child is going to Kilbowie please make sure they are represented at the meeting.



Multi-Purpose Sports Pitch/ Ash Park upgrade

Good news! The multi-purpose sports pitch is now complete. Once the pitch has undergone final inspection it will be ready for use. Mrs Oates has arranged a meeting with Mrs Matthews (HT Muirhouse Primary) to discuss how to make best use of the pitch for the children and families of both schools. We will keep you updated.

After School Activity Clubs

Our after school clubs are now under way for September/October. Thank you to all the staff who are giving up their own time and planning a wide variety of activities for your children.

Outdoor Learning

The children will be involved in outdoor learning activities on the **first Friday 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. Please ensure all clothing is labelled with your child's name.



Halloween Disco

The Parent Fundraising Group will hold a Halloween Disco on Monday 28th October.

P1 to P3	6.00 to 7.15pm
P4 to P7	7.30 to 8.45pm

Entry £2.50 pay on the door, price includes snack pack.

Halloween Activity Afternoon

We will hold a Halloween Activity Afternoon in our classroom on Thursday 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.

Children can go home to get changed at 12.30pm. Please collect them as you would at 3.00pm, if any child needs to change in school staff will be available to help them.

Children will be dismissed in the usual way at 3.00pm.

*Anxious about homework?
Stressed?*

*Worried?
We are happy to help!*

Homework

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 member of the teaching staff will be available to help you and your

child with any issues regarding homework, computers will be available for Sumdog homework. Any parents unable to attend but have concerns regarding homework please email ht@st-brendans.n-lanark.sch.uk.

Drop In Service

St Brendan's Primary has always had an open door policy, everyone is welcome to contact the school for an appointment to speak to Mrs Oates if you have any issues or concerns. Further to this, Mrs Oates will now have a drop in appointment service on the first Thursday of each month from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. All welcome.

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/School Taxi – we now have 35 children entitled to school transport, we ask you to contact the school office by 2pm if you have a change to your arrangements as 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, sometimes there can be confusion and young children are not always sure of where they are going.

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

Our classes blog weekly don't forget to log onto Blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendans.

Can I remind you that St Brendan's Primary and Nursery is a NUT FREE ZONE.

Parking – Reminder

The school car park is for staff use only.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Oates
Head Teacher