



St Brendan's Primary School



Newsletter – 26th March 2021

Dear Parents,

As we near the end of another busy term we wanted to share some important events, dates and news with you.

Easter Holiday

Our school will close on Thursday 1st April at 2.30pm for the Easter break. We will re-open on Monday 19th April continuing our staggered start between 8.50am and 9.15am. We will continue to review this procedure on a weekly basis. We wish you a very happy and Holy Easter.

Important Dates for Diary

Sunday 28th March	2.00pm	P5 First Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass (children only)
Tuesday 25th May	5.15pm and 6.30pm	First Reconciliation
Monday 7th June	7.00pm	Confirmation Primary 7
Tuesday 8th June	7.00pm	Confirmation Primary 7
Wednesday 9th June	7.00pm	Confirmation Primary 7
Saturday 2nd October	TBC	First Holy Communion
November	TBC	Confirmation Primary 6 (dates TBC)

Numbers will be restricted for each Service as per Government Guidance.

School Holidays

Spring break (inclusive)	Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April
*Good Friday/ Easter Monday	Friday 2nd April/Monday 5th April
May Day holiday	Monday 3rd May
In-service day	Thursday 6th May
Mid-term holiday	Friday 28th May and Monday 31st May
School closes	Thursday 24th June

Outstanding Dinner Money

We understand that sometimes parents and children can forget to top up their cards, however, we would ask that you check your child's balance regularly, you can add money and check your balance online. If you have any difficulties in paying please contact Mrs Oates.

Parent Telephone Appointments

Our parent/teacher telephone appointments were between Monday 8th March and Friday 12th March and were a great success. If you were unable to arrange an appointment at this time please contact School Office and we will arrange a suitable appointment.

Parking

We encourage you to use the Chapel car park as a safe place to drop-off and collect your children. Barons Road is extremely busy and dangerous at peak times, parking in the school car park is strictly prohibited.

Parent Council

Our next Parent Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 30th March at 6.00pm. If you wish to join our virtual meeting please contact School Office no later than Monday 29th March at 12 noon and a WebEx link will be emailed to you.

Please follow the link below to submit any general comments, compliments or queries that you would like to be considered for discussion at the next St Brendan's Parent Council Meeting.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKZp1ENtYwF5Nj0P0X182tpRUMEJURUEyRkpDRlh.OMEtHVjZINzY5Wk9OSS4u>

Lenten Fundraising

During Lent in St Brendan's we have been taking part in some simple fundraising activities in school and from home. Due to Covid restrictions we are unable to enjoy our annual Fun Day Experience. This year our main fundraising activity will be our very healthy Sponsored Walk around the surrounding area of the School.

This will take place on Thursday 1st April. No uniform required on this day but please dress for the weather. The sponsor form has been emailed with this letter on Groupcall.

Class Teachers and Support Staff will walk with your children around the local area, this will be the equivalent of 1 mile. The walk will take place at the best time convenient to each individual class.

All donations and sponsor money should be paid through ipayimpact. Please contact the school office for more information on this if required.

Nursery children are welcome to take part if they wish. No sponsor form will be required, just a £1 donation. All money collected will be given to SCIAF.

Pupil Equity Fund

As you are aware we received £36,419 from the Scottish Government as part of the Attainment Challenge (closing the poverty related attainment gap), we consulted with Parent Council, staff and pupils last year on how best to spend this money.

So far we have purchased

- additional ASNA hours per week
- additional teaching staff to work with small groups of children
- staff training
- digital devices
- online resources

As you will see we have targeted support in order to help us close the attainment gap.



Looking after a child or young person's mental health

There are times when we all feel the strain and struggle with our mental health. Feeling upset, angry or sad is completely normal, but sometimes this can go on for longer than would be expected or it begins to have an impact on the child or young person being able to get on with life, thrive and develop.

As parents and carers, there are ways we can support children and young people to give them the best chance to stay mentally healthy.

During lockdown, some children and young people have enjoyed being off school, while others will have really struggled – with the coronavirus outbreak keeping them at home and away from friends.

With restrictions being regularly reviewed, they may also have to deal with self-isolating, or have worries about getting or passing on the virus. Feelings like this will gradually ease for most, but there are always steps you can take to support them emotionally and help them cope with problems they face.

There's support available if you feel you or they need it. Please refer to these websites for more information and support.

www.place2be.org.uk

www.childline.org.uk under 12's or call 0800 1111

www.samh.org.uk

<https://young.scot/get-informed>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/young-people>

School Uniform

As you know St Brendan's is an ECO school something which we are very proud of. We are now once again able to accept school uniforms which can be recycled to other families. These uniforms will be quarantined before being distributed. Children can bring any uniforms to be recycled to the school office. Families requiring any items of uniform can contact school office or Mrs Oates.

Website and Twitter

Please keep up to date with all that is going on in the school and nursery by checking our website. The children have been blogging, please check out their weekly blogs.

www.st-brendans.n-lanark.sch.uk You can also follow us on twitter @StBrendansPS.

Mrs Maura Oates
Head Teacher

