



St Brendan's Primary & Nursery
"Voyaging Together as a Community of Faith, Love and Learning"



Child Protection Co-ordinator: Mrs Maura Oates

Newsletter – September/October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our September/October Newsletter, the children have all settled into their new classes. Once again, the children 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.

September Weekend Holiday

School will be closed to pupils on Friday 27th and Monday 30th September 2024.

October Holidays

School will be closed to pupils from Monday 14th to Friday 18th October 2024.

School re-opens on Monday 21st October continuing with our soft start from 8.50am to 9.00am, it is important your child is in school for 9.00am.

Settling In Parents' Evening

Our Parents' Evening will be held on Wednesday 9th 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 open on Tuesday 1st October at 7.00pm to book an appointment online. An email with the link and instructions on how to book appointments will be sent to parents/carers. If you would prefer to contact the school office an appointment can be made for you or if you are unable access the booking system please contact school office.

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

Primary 7 Transition Meeting Monday 23rd September 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. Children are welcome to attend.

Christmas Panto - Aladdin at Ravenscraig Sports Centre, Monday 16th December 2024

If you have not already paid for the Panto, please ensure all outstanding balances are paid no later than Monday 23rd September. Please contact Mrs Oates if you need to discuss payment.

Gold Celebration – Friday 11th October

We are delighted to announce that we have officially been awarded Gold Rights Respecting status and renewed our Gold Sport Scotland Award. The children will celebrate this in school on Friday 11th October.

School Library Opening and Sponsored Readathon

Our new school library will be officially opened on Friday 11th October. To mark this event we are taking part in a sponsored Readathon. Sponsor sheets to follow.

Scottish Book Week

Book Week Scotland 2024 will take place on 18th to 24th of November. Book Week Scotland is an annual celebration of books and reading that takes place across the country. Throughout this week all children will take part in a variety of exciting activities and events within their classes and in the wider school, to share the importance and joy of reading.

Outdoor Learning

As always, 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. Please ensure all clothing is labelled with your child's name. Only children who have P.E. on a Friday should come to school in outdoor P.E. kit. All other children should wear school uniform as we attend Holy Mass the first Friday of every month..

Asda 'Cashpot for Kids'

From 02/09/24 till 30/11/24 Asda will be doing a 'Cashpot For Kids' by donating money to the school through the Asda Rewards App. This is a great opportunity for family and friends to help donate money to our school. Please download the Asda Rewards App and link St Brendan's Primary to your purchases.

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. We have now updated the app with a new password and added the school calendar of events. You will be able to sign up for notifications. To receive the password please contact school office.

School Photographs

Dates for Chris McIntyre Photography have still to be confirmed. More information to follow as soon as available.

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.

Halloween Disco

The Parent Fundraising Group will hold a Halloween Disco on Wednesday 30th October.

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

Entry £4.00 pay on the door, price includes raffle and snack pack.



Halloween Activity Afternoon

We will hold a Halloween Activity Afternoon in our classrooms 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. 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.



Birthday Cakes

Due to several children in school having severe allergies we are unable 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. Due to these severe allergies we are a nut and egg free school.

Parent Council Meetings

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st October at 6.00pm. As a member of our Parent Forum you are welcome to attend the meeting.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club runs from 8.15am daily and costs £1 per day. Primary 1 to Primary 5 children and children entitled to free school meals do not pay for this service. The children will go straight to their class at 8.50am. Our Breakfast Club is supervised for children using this service, we do not have supervision for children being dropped off at school before 8.50am.

Flu Immunisation

NHS Staff will be in school on Tuesday 26th November for flu immunisations.

Dinner Money

Several 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 daily. Should you require password for online payments please contact school office. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please go to NLC website for further information.

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.

Pupil Council

Congratulations to our newly elected Pupil Council:



P1	Ruby	P4	Rachel and Ellis	P6	Israela and Charlie
P2	Miller	P5/4	Georgia and Harry	P7/6	Kyle and Emma
P3/2	Jenna	P5	Daniel and Hannah	P7	Josh and Julia
P3	Harper				

We wish them every success in their new role.

School Clothing Reminder

Please label all items of clothing as items get mislaid daily 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 item will be taken to a charity shop.

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

Attendance and Late coming

North Lanarkshire Council and the Scottish Government are encouraging schools to look closely at how attendance rates impact on a child's learning.

Some interesting facts about attendance:

- A child who is absent one school day per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life.
- 7.5 million School days are missed each year through unauthorised absence.
- 90% of young people with absence rates consistently below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades at National exams.

To this end we are actively monitoring our children's attendance rates. All children whose attendance rates fall below 90% (St Brendan's Primary school's target rate) will receive a letter detailing their attendance rates for the term August to October along with codes which NLC schools use to record absences. Children whose attendance has fallen below 90% will receive a letter, we do understand if children are sick they are not fit for school and should be kept at home, however, these letters will keep you informed of your child's attendance rate.

In addition to this if your child's attendance is significantly below 90% you will be contacted to discuss the matter further.

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

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

Fundraising

When making purchases online please log into www.easyfundraising.org.uk.

All money raised will be used by St Brendan's Fundraising Group to help support your children.

Important Diary Dates

Key dates for Term 2 will be issued after the October break.

Parking – Reminder

The school car park is for staff use only.

Mrs M Oates
Head Teacher



September

Monday 23rd September
Friday 27th September
Monday 30th September

Primary 7 Transition Meeting 6.00pm
School and Nursery closed
School and Nursery closed

October

Tuesday 1st October
Wednesday 9th October
Friday 11th October
Friday 11th October
Monday 14th October
Wednesday 30th October
Thursday 31st October

Parent Council Meeting 6.00pm
Settling In Parents Afternoon & Evening
Gold Celebration
Sponsored Readathon
School and Nursery closed - October Week
Halloween Disco
Halloween Activity Afternoon

November

Tuesday 12th November
Monday 18th November
Tuesday 26th November

Parent Council Meeting 6.00pm
In-Service Day – School and Nursery closed to children
Flu Immunisation

December

Wednesday 11th December
Thursday 12th December
Friday 13th December
Monday 16th December
Wednesday 18th December
Friday 20th December

Primary 6 and Primary 7 Christmas Party
Primary 4 and Primary 5 Christmas Party
Primary 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Party
Christmas Panto
Carol Service and Christmas Enterprise Fayre
School closes for Christmas Holidays 2.30pm