 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 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our September/October Newsletter. The children have settled comfortably into their classes and all look so smart in their school uniform. We sincerely thank you for your continued support.

The end of this term and the start of 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 26th and Monday 29th September 2025.

**October Holidays**

School will be closed to pupils from Monday 13th to Friday 17th October 2025.

**School re-opens on Monday 20th 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 Tuesday 7th 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 new things.

The Parents Evening Booking System will open on Tuesday 30th September 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.

**Christmas Panto – Little Mermaid, The Kings Theatre, Glasgow, Tuesday 16th December 2025**

If you have not already paid for the Panto, please ensure all outstanding balances are paid no later than Tuesday 30th September. Please contact Mrs Oates if you need to discuss payment.

**Important Update: School App & Parentportal Transition**

We would like to inform parents and carers that our current School App which has been partly funded by the Parent Fundraising Group will continue to be available until Christmas. We are very grateful for their support in helping us keep families connected

From January onwards, we will be moving to *Parentportal*, a free communication service. In order to continue receiving school messages, you must be signed into Parentportal.

We understand that some parents have experienced difficulty with the sign-in process. To support you with this, we have arranged two drop-in sessions where staff will be available to help:

***Tuesday 21st October and Wednesday 22nd October from 2.30pm – 4.00pm***

Please come along to ensure you're signed up and ready to receive all future school communications through Parentportal.

**School Photographs**

Chris McIntyre the school Photographer will be in school and nursery on ***Tuesday 21st October till Thursday 23rd October***. Individuals, sibling groups, and P1 & P7 year group photographs will be taken. At the moment we are unable to confirm which photographs will be taken on which days. More information will be available on the app nearer the time.

**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 Thursday 23rd 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.

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**Halloween Activity Afternoon**

We will hold a Halloween Activity Afternoon in our classrooms on Friday 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 30th September 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.

**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. If you would like to join or feel that you could help at some events, please go along to one of the meetings, where you will be made most welcome.



**Pupil Council**

Congratulations to our newly elected Pupil Council:

P1 Zach P4 Theo and Olivia P6 Ellie and Jack

P2/1 Anaiyah P5/4 Reilly and Corey P7/6 Amelia and Jude

P3/2 Joseph P5 Isaac and Thea P7 Xander and Olivia

P3 Amelia

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.

**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.

**Weekly Blog**

Our classes’ blog weekly don’t forget to check out our blog on our website at:

[**blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendansps/**](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbrendansps/).

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

**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**

Friday 26th September School and Nursery closed

Monday 29th September School and Nursery closed

Tuesday 30th September Parent Council Meeting at 6.00pm

**October**

Tuesday 7th October Settling In Parents Afternoon & Evening

Monday 13th October School and Nursery closed - October Week

Thursday 23rd October Halloween Disco

Friday 31st October Halloween Activity Afternoon

**November**

Tuesday 11th November Parent Council Meeting 6.00pm

Monday 17th November In-Service Day – School and Nursery closed to children

Friday 28th November St. Andrew’s Celebration

**December**

Wednesday 10th December Primary 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Party

Thursday 11th December Primary 4 and Primary 5 Christmas Party

Friday 12th December Primary 6 and Primary 7 Christmas Party

Tuesday 16th December Christmas Panto

Wednesday 17th December Carol Service and Christmas Enterprise Fayre

Thursday 18th December School closes for Christmas Holidays 2.30pm