



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



Child Protection Co-ordinator: Mrs Maura Oates

Newsletter – August 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome back to everyone for the new school session. It has been wonderful to see all of our children return, along with 30 new little ones who have joined our school community and are settling well. As we begin another exciting year of learning, we are also thinking of our former Primary 7 pupils and wish them every success as they embark on the next stage of their educational journey at secondary school.

Here is a reminder of the new class arrangements:

Primary 1	Mrs McGlone & Mrs O'Donnell
Primary 2/1	Mrs Shaw & Mrs O'Donnell
Primary 3/2	Mrs Bell (covering Mrs Smedley's maternity leave)
Primary 3	Mrs Ferns
Primary 4	Miss Mitchell
Primary 5/4	Mrs MacDermid & Mrs Colton
Primary 5	Mrs McKendrick
Primary 6	Mrs Williamson & Miss Waldron
Primary 7/6	Miss McShane
Primary 7	Mr Bradley

Miss Waldron and Mrs O'Donnell will support the work of classes and deliver NCCT. Mrs Fleming will also support the work of the classes over the next few weeks before commencing her maternity leave. Miss Burns, Mrs Colton and myself form the Senior Leadership Team.

Office Staff:	Mrs Cogan	Senior Clerical Assistant
	Mrs Cozzari	Senior Clerical Assistant
	Miss Cosgrove	Clerical Assistant

Learning Assistants: Mrs Cassidy/Mrs Burnett Mrs Morton Miss Maloney

Lunchtime Supervisor: Mrs Drozd

Breakfast Club Supervisors: Mrs Drozd & Mrs Morton

Janitor: Alan Brown

A big thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school looking so smart in their uniforms, and I greatly appreciate the effort that has gone into ensuring they are ready for the year ahead. If you require any pre-loved school uniform items, including shoes, please contact the school office by telephone or email, providing details of the sizes and items required.

Our staff are delighted to welcome the children back and are looking forward to working closely with them throughout the year, supporting and encouraging each child to achieve their full potential.

Communication

If you have any queries which you would like to discuss with a member of the Senior Leadership Team please contact the HT/Office via telephone on 01698 274914 or email enquiries-at-st-brendans@northlan.org.uk and a return phone call or an appointment will be arranged.

Parent Drop In

To provide an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss any questions or concerns regarding their child(ren), I will be holding a monthly drop-in session on the **last Thursday of each month**. I will be available from **3.30pm to 5.00pm**, and no appointment is necessary.

Please feel free to come along if you would like to speak with me. I look forward to meeting with you.

ParentsPortal

We use ParentsPortal as our main form of communication with families. This is available as free app from your app store. Last year, almost all families were linked up via this system.

If you have not yet signed up to ParentsPortal, please ensure you have a MyGov Scot account, download the ParentsPortal app via your app store and sign in using your MyGov Scot details. From there you will be able to link your child. If you require any support with this please contact the office and a member of the team will be able to assist you.

Cashless System

All payments to the school, including lunch money, trips and events should be made through iPayImpact.

In order to access iPayImpact you need to set up an account through North Lanarkshire Council website at:

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-andlearning/school-meals/school-meal-payments>

Once you have set up an account you will need a unique code to link your child to your account, please contact school office or email enquiries-at-st-brendans@northlan.org.uk for this code.

School Blog

Keep up to date with school life through our weekly blog! Each week, we share highlights of the children's learning, achievements, and special events across the school. Our blog is a wonderful way to see what has been happening in classrooms and celebrate the many successes of our pupils. We encourage all parents and carers to visit regularly and enjoy a glimpse into the exciting learning experiences taking place throughout the week.

Nut and Egg Allergy

Can I remind you that we have children in the school who have severe nut and egg allergies, therefore we ask for your co-operation in ensuring that all snacks/lunches etc. are always nut/egg free. Please avoid snacks such as buenos, chocolate spread, snickers, etc which contain nuts. Please avoid snack items such as milky way, cakes and teacakes which

all contain eggs. Looking at the ingredients can be helpful to identify high allergens in snacks.

Sacramental Dates

We can now confirm the dates of all 3 sacraments for this school session:

First Reconciliation	Thursday 18 th March 2027 at 6.30pm
First Holy Communion	Saturday 22 nd May 2027 at 11am
Confirmation	Tuesday 15 th June 2027 at 7pm

More information will be given out nearer the time of the Sacraments.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open from 8.15am and breakfast is provided at a cost of £1.00 for one child. If your child is entitled to a Clothing Grant for 2026/27 then they are also entitled to free breakfast. Breakfast Club is free to all Primary 1 to Primary 5 children. Please ensure your child has money on their card. If your child is not attending Breakfast Club the playground is supervised from 8.50am and children should not arrive before this time.

Uniform

We take great pride in our school uniform and we are grateful to you our parents for giving our school a high profile in the community by making sure the children wear their uniform.

Uniform Items:

Green shirt
Brown skirt/trousers (grey will also be accepted)
Brown cardigan/jumper
Brown/Black shoes (no trainers please)
On warm days green/yellow gingham dress
School tie
Blazer

We currently have a good stock of pre-loved uniform including shoes available to anyone who can make good use of this. Please help us and your child to identify clothing by labelling ALL items with name or initials.

PE Information

Education Scotland require children to receive P.E. sessions twice a week. One session will be indoors and the second session of the week will be outdoors. Our P.E. uniform must be worn on your child's P.E. day.

This consists of the following:

Black shorts or joggies / leggings
Yellow t-shirt
School jumper or cardigan
Suitable sports footwear

For Health and Safety reasons children are not allowed to wear acrylic nails to school. If these are worn your child will be unable to participate in P.E. Children should NOT wear earrings on PE days as these would need to be removed by the child or taped over in order to participate in PE. This is for Health & Safety reasons.

PE Timetable

P1 – Monday & Friday
P2/1 – Monday & Thursday
P3/2 – Tuesday & Thursday
P3 – Wednesday & Friday
P4 – Monday & Friday
P5/4 – Monday & Friday
P5 – Monday & Friday
P6 – Monday & Thursday
P7/6 – Tuesday & Thursday
P7 – Monday & Wednesday

What to Bring

Children should be discouraged from bringing items from home to school - including mobile phones, pencil cases, toys, etc. We have issued children with all required stationery.

Children should bring their water bottle to school filled each day as we are discouraging these being refilled due to disrupting their lessons, however, if children require their water bottle filled, this of course will be allowed.

We operate a soft start every morning from 8.50am to 9.00am for all children. Primary 1 to Primary 7 can enter through the main gate and make their way to their class.

Children will be dismissed and exit through the main gates. Parents will NOT be permitted in the school yard. School staff will be on hand to supervise and direct the children. ONLY nursery parents will be in the yard to drop off and collect their child from nursery. Parents are permitted inside main gate at top of stairs to collect and drop off children.

Late Coming

Important teaching time takes place at the beginning of the school day so please try to make sure your child is on time for school. If your child arrives after 9.00am the pupil entrances will be closed for security therefore children should use the main entrance and report to the office.

Attendance

If your child is unable to come to school you have the responsibility of informing the school. We ask that you let the school office know by phoning or calling in as soon as possible on the morning of your child's absence. You are also able to report your child's absence via ParentsPortal.

Parking

Can we please remind you that the car park is for staff use only and should not be used to drop off or pick up children. Also, for safety reasons please DO NOT park or drop off children on the yellow zig zags in front of the school. These should be kept clear at all times.

The parish of St. Brendan's kindly allow us to use the chapel car park for drop off/pick up. We ask that you follow the one way system within the car park, parking in allocated bays (only using disabled spaces if you have a blue badge displayed) and are respectful to parishioners who may be attending morning Mass.

North Lanarkshire Council School Holidays

To keep up to date with NLC holidays for all North Lanarkshire Schools including St Brendan's Primary and Nursery please see North Lanarkshire Council website or scan QR code below.



Parent Council

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to our **Parent Council Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, which will take place on **Tuesday 25th August at 6.00pm** in **St Brendan's School**.

The AGM is a great opportunity to find out more about the valuable work of the Parent Council and how it supports the school community. We warmly welcome all parents and carers to attend, particularly those who are new to the school. The Parent Council is always keen to recruit new members, and joining is a fantastic way to become more involved in school life, share your ideas, and help make a positive difference for all our children. We look forward to seeing you there.

Record Checks

We are required to update our pupil records at the beginning of every session. We ask you to carefully check the form and make any changes, sign and return to school. These forms will be made available through ParentsPortal within the next couple of weeks. Please keep an eye out for this and complete as quickly as possible.

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.

Newsletter

This month we are issuing every pupil with a paper copy of our newsletter, however as an Eco school we are keen to reduce our photocopying. All newsletters will be sent via ParentsPortal and will be posted on our school website.

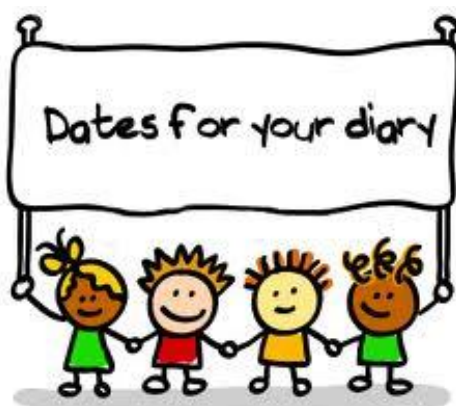
If you would prefer a paper copy of our newsletters in future please contact school office.

If you do not wish your child to be included in photographs or school blogs please contact the school office no later than Tuesday 19th August 2024.

I have included a list of important dates up until Christmas. More information about these events and any others will be issued in due course.

We look forward to this new school year and working in partnership with you and your child.

Mrs M Oates
Head Teacher



August

Tuesday 25th August

Parent Council AGM 6pm

September

Friday 4th September

First Friday Mass 9.30am (P1 will not attend)

Monday 21st September

Primary 7 Transition Meeting 6.00pm

Wednesday 23rd September

P1-P3 Homework Open Afternoon 2pm

Friday 25th September

School and Nursery closed

Monday 28th September

School and Nursery closed

Tuesday 29th September

Parent Council Meeting 6pm

Wednesday 30th September

P4-P7 Homework Open Afternoon 2pm

October

Friday 2nd October

First Friday Mass

Wednesday 7th October

Settling In Parents Afternoon & Evening

Monday 12th October

School and Nursery closed - October Week

Monday 19th October

Return to school and nursery

Wednesday 21st, Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd October School & Nursery Photographs

November

Friday 6th November

First Friday Mass 9.30am

Tuesday 10th November

Parent Council Meeting 6.00pm

Monday 16th November

In-Service Day – School and Nursery closed to children

Friday 27th November

St. Andrew's Day Celebration

December

Friday 4th December

First Friday Mass 9.30am

Wednesday 9th December

Primary 6 and Primary 7 Christmas Party

Thursday 10th December

Primary 4 and Primary 5 Christmas Party

Friday 11th December

Primary 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Party

Friday 11th December

Nursery Christmas Celebrations

Tuesday 15th December

Christmas Panto

Thursday 17th December

Carol Service and Christmas Enterprise Fayre

Friday 18th December

School closes for Christmas Holidays 2.30pm