Dear Parents/Carer,

I hope you all had a restful and relaxing summer despite the unseasonally wet weather.

We are delighted to see all our pupils and staff back to school and nursery looking healthy and full of energy.

I have attached all of the dates for the year ahead to the end of our newsletter and all children have been given a paper copy so that you can stick it onto your fridge or notice board.

We will of course keep you updated throughout the year with any changes and to add additional events etc.

Many of you will be aware that Father Hughes had fallen before the holidays. We have spoken through the holidays and I know that he is keen to get back and resume his work with the school and in the Parish Community. Father Colm Martin is temporarily filling in whilst Father Hughes recuperates.

**Staffing**

We welcome a number of new faces into St. Bride’s as we start the term as we have been allocated area cover staff for our ongoing maternity leaves.

Ms B Coppola is in P3 covering for Mrs Sinclair.

Mrs A McLaughlin and Mrs M Martin are in P5 for Mrs Campbell (Mrs McLaughlin will continue to job share Mon-Wed when Mrs Campbell returns).

Miss C Ridge is covering staff non-class contact time until Mrs McCormick returns.

Miss M Maillin will provide additional cover on a Friday.

**The Hub**

The portacabin at the top of the car park has now been re-assigned to the school now that Wooddean Nursery has opened.

This has been reconfigured slightly so that we can use it as an additional space for our school pupils, containing desks and chairs, a C-touch and teaching board.

It has been provisionally named “The Hub”. In the first instance we are aiming to utilise this for joint working opportunities for our P7s and as a science zone to be timetabled for all classes. This is a work in progress and I will keep you up to date with this as the term continues.

**PE**

Further to discussions before the holidays, I would like to re-iterate that whilst we are moving towards a navy tee-shirt for PE for all from next year, both the gold and navy are permissible this year. We appreciate that many families hand on uniform and as it can be very expensive we thought it best to have a “transition” period to allow the gold tees to be phased out as children grow out of them or they need replaced. Frontline Schoolwear are stocking the navy ones.

Please remember that jewellery must not be worn during PE and if your child has their ears pierced, they should be able to remove earrings on PE days. We have agreed that ears can be taped only for children who have recently had their ears pierced and are not allowed to take their earrings out. If this is the case for your child, please provide plasters or tape as we are not allowed to give plasters out for this.

PE Days

P1 – Tuesday and Friday

P1/2 – Tuesday and Thursday

P2 – Wednesday and Friday

P3 – Wednesday and Friday

P3/4 – Wednesday and Thursday

P4 – Wednesday and Thursday

P5 – Wednesday and Friday

P5/6 – Monday and Friday

P6/7 – Tuesday and Thursday

P7 – Tuesday and Thursday

Please note that these dates may be changed when we can confirm days and dates for swimming, music and hockey.

**Primary 1**

Our new primary one children have started the term so well and are already making us proud.

The soft-start arrangement will continue into next week with children being invited into the playground from the week beginning the 26th of August. The P7 buddies will be on hand to help with this next step. Mrs O’Hara will be present at the church gate and I will be at the main gate from 8.45am to help with this.

Could all parents PLEASE ensure that their children’s name is on absolutely everything that comes into school. We are already accumulating lost property and this can be avoided by adding names to everything.

The PTA will host their P1 welcome night in the Pastoral Centre at St. Bride’s Church on Friday the 30th of August at 6pm. Full details will be provided in due course but this is definitely a date to put in the diary.

**School Photographer**

Maureen Bell the school photographer will be in school on the 2nd and 3rd of September. After parental enquiries last year around cost, Maureen had agreed to look at ways that costs could be reduced and will offer parents a range of prints without mounts etc. She is also attending school earlier in the term so that if you choose to purchase pictures all payments will hopefully be made before you have to start thinking about the cost of Christmas etc.

**Getting in Touch**

Parents Portal is now going to be the main platform for the school to get in touch with you. I would urge all parents who have not yet done so, to try and do this as soon as possible. Please see the school office if you have any queries about this.

If you would like to contact the school please contact us by phone or email.

01698 853709 or [gw14stbridesbwoffice@glow.sch.co.uk](mailto:gw14stbridesbwoffice@glow.sch.co.uk)

Emails will not be picked up out of core hours but will be addressed as soon as possible during the school day.

Many Thanks

Mrs Cleland

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| 26th August 2024 | Parent Council Meeting 7pm |
| 30th August 2024 | P1 Welcome Event 6pm at Pastoral Centre |
| 6th September 2024 | First Friday Mass P1-P7 |
| 18th September 2024 | Meet the Teacher Open Afternoon 1.30pm |
| 27– 30th September 2024 | School Closed (September Weekend) |
| 6th October 2024 | P1 Welcome Mass at St. Bride’s Church 10am |
| 7th October 2024 | Parent Council Meeting 7pm |
| 8th October 2024 | Parents’ Night 3.30-8pm |
| 14th – 18th October 2024 | School Closed (October Week) |
| 22nd October 2024 | Sacramental Preparation Meeting for P3. P4 and P7 parents – from 6.30pm in St. Bride’s church. |
| 28th October 2024 | Halloween Disco in School |
| 1st November 2024 | Whole school Mass -Feast of All Saints |
| 11th November 2024 | In-Service Day 3 (School Closed to pupils) |
| 2nd December 2024 | Parent Council Meeting 7pm |
| 6th December 2024 | First Friday Mass |
| 13th December 2024 | Christmas Fair 9.30-11am (approx.) |
| 16th December 2024 | P4-P7 Christmas performance 10am  P1-P3 Nativity 1.45pm |
| 17th December 2024 | P1-P3 Nativity 10am  P4-P7 Christmas performance 1.45pm |
| 18th December 2024 | Nursery Show am  P4-P7 Christmas Parties (pm) |
| 19th December 2024 | Nursery and P1-P3 Christmas parties (pm) |
| 20th December 2024 | End of Term Mass 9.30am/Movie Afternoon/School closes 2.30pm |
| 23rd December – 3rd January | School Closed (Christmas Break) |
| 12th January 2025 | P3 & P4 Sacramental enrolment Mass, 10am in St. Bride’s |
| 3rd February 2025 | Parent Council Meeting 7pm |
| 7th February 2025 | First Friday Mass |
| 17th & 18th February 2025 | School Closed (February Break) |
| 19th February 2025 | In-Service Day 4 (school closed to pupils) |
| 5th March 2025 | Ash Wednesday (arrangement tbc) |
| 7th March 2025 | First Friday Mass |
| 11th March 2025 | P3 1st Reconciliation 7pm @ St. Bride’s Church |
| 20th March 2025 | Parents’ Night 2 |
| 4th April 2025 | First Friday Mass, School closes 2.30pm |
| 7th – 18 st April 2025 | School Closed (Spring Break) |
| 21st April 2025 | School Closed (Easter Monday) |
| 28th April 2025 | Parent Council Meeting 7pm |
| 1st May 2025 | In-Service Day 5 (School Closed to Pupils) |
| 2nd May 2025 | First Friday Mass |
| 10th May 2025 | P4 First Holy Communion @ St. Bride’s Church times tbc |
| 11th May 2025 – 14th May 2025 | P7 Residential Trip to Dalguise |
| 29th May 2025 | Ascension Thursday – Whole School Mass |
| 30th May 2025 | Reports issued |
| 5th June 2025 | Proposed date for School Outing |
| 6th June 2025 | First Friday Mass |
| 13th June 2025 | School Sports Day (am) Children’s Fun Afternoon (pm) |
| 16th June 2025 | P7 Leavers Party – details tbc |
| 20th June 2025 | End of Term Mass 9.30am, P7 Leaver’s Celebration 11am |
| 25th June 2025 | School Closes at 1pm |

Date for P7 Confirmation will be provided by the Diocese later in the year.