A group of orange and yellow leaves

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move into October, we begin to look ahead to this very exciting term. Our first school term was busy as always but I am pleased to say that we saw many successes. Our Primary 1 children have settled in beautifully as have all of our new starts in the nursery. Our House Captains and Vice Captains were elected by their peers and are working hard with their houses.

**UNIFORM**

As we move into the (even) wetter months I would ask you to please ensure that your child has indoor shoes to change into. The playground gets exceptionally muddy and despite our best attempts, the children insist on walking through instead of around it.

All items of clothing should have your child’s name on it as this is also the season where the lost property box sees exponential growth!

We continue to encourage our primary 4-7 children to come to school in full uniform every day and to bring their PE kits to change into. All classes will check the changing rooms after their PE days to try to minimise any mix-ups with uniform.

Both of our uniform suppliers will no longer offer the gold dri-fit tee-shirt BUT please be assured that children can continue to wear these as we slowly phase them out for the navy blue ones.

**MASSES**

We are very happy to share that Father Hughes is returning to his ministry and will be celebrating First Friday Mass with us on the 4th of October. Primary 6/7 have responsibility for leading this Mass and all families are welcome to join us.

On Sunday morning there will be a Welcome Mass for our Primary One children and their families. All P1 children are warmly invited to attend St. Bride’s Parish for Holy Mass at 10am. Children should wear their school uniform but remain seated with their families.

All family and friends are warmly invited to the Parish Hall afterwards for tea, coffee, toast and croissants.

Primary 7s confirmation date has been set and this Sacrament will take place in St. Bride’s Church on Wednesday the 5th of February at 7pm. We have arranged an enrolment Mass for the Confirmandi on Sunday the 1st of December at 10 o’clock Mass.

**STAFFING**

Mrs Martin (P5) who works Wed-Friday is currently absent after a family bereavement and we ask you to keep her and her family in your prayers.

Mrs McLaughlin will continue in class from Mon-Wed. Miss Ridge will cover the class on Thursday and Friday next week to ensure minimal disruption and provide continuity of learning before Mrs Campbell returns from maternity leave on the 23rd of October.

This means that there will be a temporary change to our PE timetable next week and Mrs McCaffrey’s primary 4 will have PE on Monday and Tuesday. This will revert to Wednesday and Thursday after the October break.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to Miss Rankin who has been Acting Principal teacher during Mrs Campbell’s leave and has worked really hard supporting our school and learners during this time.

**TRANSPORT UPDATE**

Please see the information below regarding the outcome of South Lanarkshire Council’s safe walking route assessment for children who will be travelling to Holy Cross by bus from Bothwell and Uddingston.

“Following the approval to implement the new policy on mainstream secondary school transport (distance eligibility of more than 3 miles) from August 2025, we have now assessed the walking route between Bothwell and Uddingston and Holy Cross High School.

 Historically, this route was assessed as being unsafe and this position remains unchanged.

 This means that current pupils and new pupils who live in the Bothwell and Uddingston areas will continue to be eligible to receive school transport based on road safety regardless of distance from school.

 Other parental requests for walking route assessments are ongoing for other areas and further information will be provided to parents in due course”.

Please note that there are no changes for those families who currently use school transport to travel to St. Bride’s.

**PARENTS’ NIGHT**

We look forward to welcoming you into school to meet with your children’s teacher on Tuesday the 8th of October. Appointments will take place in the gym hall and I would remind you that each appointment will last for a maximum of seven minutes. It is essential that this is adhered to for the smooth running of the evening.

We will have some samples of your children’s work for you to look at before (or after) you speak to the teacher. Look out for the marker your child has added in to highlight a particular piece of work that they are proud of. There will be a feedback postcard that you can complete for your child(ren).

We are delighted to see that almost all of our families have signed up to Parents Portal and been able to secure your appointments via this platform.

**DANCE-A-THON**

I am delighted to be able to share that our recent Dance-a-thon raised approximately £2500 for school funds. This is an incredible amount and will go towards paying for buses to festivals and other outings.

Thanks go to Miss Learmonth who put the classes through their paces and thanks to the pupils and families for taking part and supporting our school.

**CONTACT**

Parents Portal is now 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