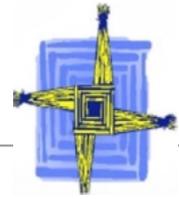


# ST BRIDE'S BUZZ!



News & Celebrations | [@StBridesPS1](https://twitter.com/StBridesPS1) | [www.stbridesps.org.uk](http://www.stbridesps.org.uk)

## Keeping everyone safe...

As we approach typical flu season, with COVID-19 still with us alongside other respiratory infections and seasonal illnesses, we continue to ask parents to carefully consider your child's health and fitness for school. Schools are very vulnerable to the rapid spread of bugs and viruses due to the sheer number of people on our premises daily. St Bride's whole school community want our staff, children and families to be able to stay safe and well - **so we need your help!**

### Please ensure you:

- **inform school** immediately of any suspected/confirmed COVID, chickenpox or other illnesses
- **Keep any sick children at home**
- Promote good hand hygiene
- Complete any necessary periods of isolation to stop spread
- **Once a week, take a peek!** Please ensure that you treat any cases of headlice to prevent spread.

## Health Guidance...

Do I need to keep my child off school? HSC Public Health Agency					
<b>Chicken Pox</b> Most of spots have crusted over	<b>Conjunctivitis</b> No more than 24 hours of redness and discharge	<b>Dermatome or Warts</b> No more than 10 warts	<b>Glaucoma or Fever</b> No more than 24 hours of fever	<b>Head Lice or Headlice</b> No more than 24 hours of headlice	<b>Impetigo</b> No more than 24 hours of impetigo
<b>Stomach or Gastroenteritis</b> No more than 24 hours of vomiting or diarrhoea	<b>Mumps</b> No more than 24 hours of mumps	<b>Scabies</b> No more than 24 hours of scabies	<b>Sore Throat</b> No more than 24 hours of sore throat	<b>Strep Throat</b> No more than 24 hours of strep throat	<b>Whooping Cough</b> No more than 24 hours of whooping cough
<b>Flu</b> No more than 24 hours of flu	<b>Head Lice</b> No more than 24 hours of headlice	<b>Throat Swabs</b> No more than 24 hours of throat swabs	<b>Tonsillitis</b> No more than 24 hours of tonsillitis		

**What a brilliantly busy week!** Under our continued **#Friendship** theme, this week saw a dual focus on both **#AntiBullyingWeek** and **#RoadSafetyWeek** with a series of events and activities arranged across the week in every class. We began the week with a fantastic **#OddSocksDay** on Monday and ended with **#DitchTheDarkDay** today! take a look at our Twitter feed **@StBridesPS1** for a preview of what classes got up to and have a look at some of the images below. Huge thanks to all staff, pupils and parents for their support and participation.



**Birthdays so far...**

Happy birthday with love from everyone at **St Bride's PS, Belfast** ❤️🥰

**November** birthdays (14-20th) 🥰

- Henry (P2IM). Alice (Nursery)
- Noah (P5M/McK). Callum (P3McD)
- Garrett (P7MM). Matthew (P2KP)
- Jack (P2JODG) Fia (P3McN)
- Matthew (P3ML). Devynn (P6JD).
- Sebastian (Nursery). Anna (Nursery)

**#BeBrightBeSeen** when out and about on these darker winter days



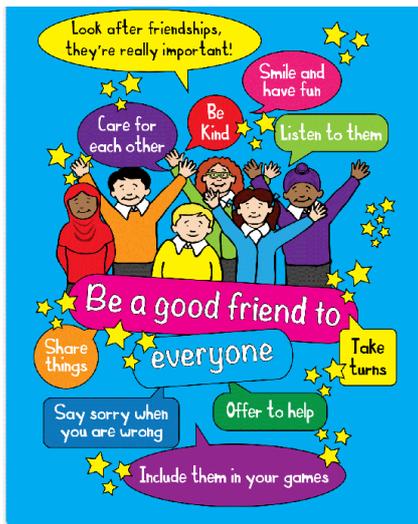
Both photos below contain children. This illustrates just how important it is to be sure that our children and us adults too, can be seen on the roads at this darker time of year.



🏆 **CHAMPIONS** 🏆🥰 **Congratulations** to our **Boys Gaelic Team** who are Division A Cumann na mBunscol Schools League winners. The boys sailed through their semi-final against Holy Child PS to progress to what turned out to be a nail-biting and hard fought, much-deserved win against neighbours, St Anne's PS. Sincere thanks to Mr Cunningham, Frank, Mark, Declan, St Brigid's CLG, Gaelfast and all family supporters. Well done boys! **Naomh Bríd Abú** ❤️💜💛



In **November** as we continue to explore **#FRIENDSHIP** and the many ways in which we can be a good and kind friend to others, we must also remember to be a good friend to ourselves by exploring positive self-care.



Next week is **Hot Chocolate Friday!** Who will be nominated this month for **#FRIENDSHIP**... I look forward to finding out soon! 😊



P7 classes have been enjoying spiritual and friendship retreats at the De La Salle Centre, partly in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A wonderful opportunity to take stock, reflect and step back from the daily stresses of study and examination.



**So much more**

You, dear child, are so much more,  
 Than a number, a percentage a level or a score,  
 You're a brilliant artist painting a scene,  
 A wonderful poet describing a dream,  
 An author creating mystery and surprise,  
 A rugby player scoring a hat trick of tries,  
 A chorister singing a beautiful song,  
 A mathematician who is rarely wrong,  
 A sailor sailing away in a boat  
 A musician hitting the perfect note,  
 An amazing athlete winning the gold,  
 A fearless adventurer so brave and so bold,  
 The list is long and I could go on,  
 You really are a talented one,  
 Your tests are important but be in no doubt,  
 They do not describe what you are about,  
 You see, dear child, you are so much more,  
 Than a number, a percentage, a level or a score.

B. Banks

As our P7 pupils continue a series of examinations over the next few weeks, we keep them and their families in our prayers.

Sincere thanks to all staff for supporting our pupils to prepare so well and to their family members supporting and encouraging them at home.

All of our P7 children have worked so hard and we are so very proud of them!

Go, do your best children and remember, to us, you are so much more than a score on a test! **#Superstars** 🌟🌟🌟

🙏 Sending lots of love, luck and positivity to our P7 children! 💙



**Congratulations** and well done to P4McIlroy on a wonderful assembly for Years 4&5. 🙌🙌🙌



**Help with Childcare and School Costs** ParentingNI Employers For Childcare

**Help with childcare costs for working parents**

- Tax-free childcare**: Save 20% of childcare costs, up to £2,000 per child per year
- Childcare vouchers**: Salary sacrifice scheme. Save up to £969 per year per parent
- Universal Credit**: Provides claimants with 85% of their registered childcare costs
- Tax Credits**: Provides claimants with 70% of their registered childcare costs

**Help with school costs**

- School uniform grant**: Contribution to the cost of school uniforms
- Free school meals**: Entitles claimants to free school dinners

St Bride’s PS staff are **here to help and support** all families. If you, or a family you know, are in need of our support, please get in touch to speak to us in confidence. The local Conference of St Vincent dePaul have been in contact with school to offer support to any family at St Bride’s that may be in need of their support. In confidence, and with the promise of our discretion and sensitivity, if you, or any family you know, may be struggling and could benefit from some financial or resource support, please get in touch with Miss Joyce or Ms Hunter via the school office. Tel: 02890 381700 or contact SVdP directly.

**Need to chat to us or raise a concern...** We will always be happy to help!

Most often **class teachers** are the best person to speak to. They can be contacted via the school email address or landline.

Email: [info@stbrides.belfast.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stbrides.belfast.ni.sch.uk) or Telephone 02890 381700. If, after speaking with class teachers, the matter remains unresolved, it may be further raised to the Head of Key Stage, SENCo, Senior Leadership Team, VPs and then the Principal.



**Keeping up with St Bride’s...** I’d encourage all adults to follow St Bride’s PS on **Twitter** to get a glimpse into all that goes on in our school. Check us out [@StBridesPS1](https://twitter.com/StBridesPS1).

 **Have you moved house, changed your telephone number or email address?**

Please ensure that you update the School Office Team with any change of details to ensure that you have continued access to our SchoolComms & Gateway App for important information and payments. **Thank you!**

 **Looking ahead... Dates for your diaries**

 **Monday 21st November - School closed to all pupils - Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings**



### Safeguarding our premises...

Families, unfortunately adults are still ‘hanging around’ on our school premises between school pickups, despite our pleas to vacate the areas. We cannot facilitate parent, grandparent or childminding waiting areas. Anyone arriving before 1.50pm or remaining on site after 2.10pm and before 2.50pm will be asked to leave in adherence with safeguarding procedures. Respectfully families, once you have collected your children, you are politely requested to leave school premises. **Thank you for your co-operation.**

#### Other Reminders:

- **Parking:** I appreciate and have witnessed the difficulties associated to traffic management, however, I respectfully request that parents adhere to road markings, **avoid using staff carpark areas, refrain from blocking school or residents’ gates, zigzag crossing lines** etc and instead park **responsibly**, with **respect** for local residents and of course, children’s safety.
- We will call the **police** in respect of any **illegal parking or dangerous driving.**
- **Our only concern is the safety of our school community.** Parking convenience is not a priority.
- **Abuse towards school staff will also not be tolerated** and could result in further action taking place.



#### - Safer School Premises:

- Families, you may be aware that we have a number of children with severe, often life-threatening, allergies, others with mobility issues and many who have experienced trauma which can be easily triggered. With that in mind, as the children’s safety and well-being is my paramount concern, I respectfully ask that ALL food coming into school is nut-free, adults refrain from smoking on school premises and that dogs are not brought on to our school sites.
- **Thank you** for your co-operation in protecting and safeguarding our children.

Now for a summary of **what’s on next week...**



Day & Date 📅	Events 🎉	Points to note 📌
<p>Monday 21st November</p> <p><b>Parent/Teacher Meeting Day</b></p>	<p><b>School closed to pupils</b>                      Parents should attend for arranged Parent/Teacher Meetings. Classes to the front of Derrylvogie site should enter via main reception doors. Those to the back of the building should use the rear doors beside the school canteen. Please park sensibly. Please do not walk through the school hall which is in use by language interpreters.</p>	<p><b>Remember</b> to book school meals by Sunday for the week ahead.</p>
<p>Tuesday 22nd November</p>	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off <b>8.30am</b>                      🙏 <b>Mass P6CK &amp; TM</b>                      ⚡ <b>P6 Superhero Gaelic Coaching</b>                      🗣️ <b>School Council Meeting</b>                      🎵 <b>Brass &amp; Cello Lessons</b>                      🎨 <b>Arts &amp; Crafts Club - DV Site</b>                      🇫🇷 <b>French (Derrylvogie Front Entrance)</b>                      🤸 <b>Gymnastics MR Sports - DV Hall</b>                      🏀 <b>Playball After-School Club - Ashleigh</b>                      🎷 <b>Orchestra &amp; Brass Ensemble 🎷🎷</b></p>	<div data-bbox="1050 544 1233 674" style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                           Follow us on  <b>Twitter</b> </div> <p><b>@StBridesPS1</b>                      to keep up with all that goes on in our school!</p>
<p>Wednesday 23rd November</p>	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off <b>8.30am</b>                      🎵 <b>Violin Lessons</b>                      🏊 <b>P7 Swimming - Queens PEC</b>                      🧑 <b>P7 Medics in School Programme</b>                      🏏 <b>Hurling &amp; Camogie - St Brigid's</b>                      ⚽ <b>Soccer MR Sports - DV Hall</b>                      🇫🇷 <b>French (Derrylvogie Front Entrance)</b></p>	<p>📌 As the weather changes, please ensure that all pupils have coats for outdoor play in all weathers and that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with names. 🌧️🧥</p>
<p>Thursday 24th November</p>	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off <b>8.30am</b>                      🎵 <b>Viola &amp; Percussion lessons</b>                      🙏 <b>P7JM Retreat</b>                      🏀 <b>Basketball Coaching</b>                      🏈 <b>KS1 Gaelfast</b>                      🗣️ <b>School Counsellor Sessions</b>                      🏀 <b>Basketball Club - Ashleigh Hall</b>                      🏈 <b>Boys' Gaelic Coaching - Queens PEC</b></p>	<div data-bbox="986 1216 1305 1406" style="border: 1px solid gray; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;">  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>REMEMBER ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK</b></p> </div>
<p>Friday 25th November</p>	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off <b>8.30am</b>                      🎵 <b>Flute lessons</b>                      📖 <b>P6CK Library Visit</b>                      🧘 <b>P7 Mindfulness Sessions</b>                      🍫 <b>Hot Chocolate Friday with Ms Hunter</b>                      🥋 <b>Judo DV Hall</b>                      🧘 <b>Yoga (Ashleigh Hall)</b>                      🇮🇷 <b>Irish Lessons (DV Front Entrance)</b></p>	<div data-bbox="1026 1529 1281 1709" style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>Happy Weekend</b></p> </div>