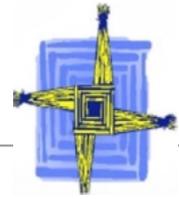


ST BRIDE'S BUZZ!



News & Celebrations | @StBridesPS1 | 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					
Chicken Pox Small spots, itchy, blisters, fever	Conjunctivitis Red, itchy, watery eyes, discharge	Diarrhoea & Vomiting Loose stools, vomiting	Glandular Fever Sore throat, swollen glands, fever	Hand, foot & mouth Blisters on hands, feet, mouth	Impetigo Small blisters, sores, crusting
Measles or German Measles Red spots, cough, fever	Mumps Swollen glands, fever, sore throat	Scabies Itchy skin, small blisters	Scarlet Fever Sore throat, fever, rash	Slapped Cheek Fever, rash on cheeks	Whooping Cough Coughing fits, whooping
Flu Fever, cough, sore throat	Head Lice Itchy scalp, nits	Throat Swellings Sore throat, difficulty swallowing	Tonsillitis Sore throat, fever, swollen glands		

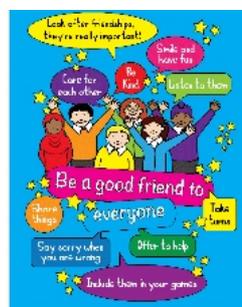
It's our monthly '**Hot Chocolate Friday**' 🍫🍪 today celebrating **FRIENDSHIP** and recognising the efforts of all pupils throughout the last few weeks and indeed, months.



It was a very tough call for staff to whittle down the nominees when absolutely every pupil has tried their very best to be a good friend to all. Well done everybody! **Keep this up!**

And the winners are.... **Congratulations** 🥳 to:

Chloe (P1JT), **Oliver** (P2IM), **Fia** (P3McD), **Zunda** (P4Mc/L), **Leah** (P5GH), **Hugh** (P6McA), **Ahyan** (P7MC).



Birthdays so far...

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



November birthdays (21-27th) 🥳

- Emily (P1MW). Finn (P1KS)
- Julia (P7JM). Kareem (Nursery)
- Tony (P5M/McK). Cara (P7JM)
- Mustafa (P7MC) Zhi Ying (P7MM)
- Raoul (P6McA). Layan (P2KP).
- May (P3McD). Kristina (P4McI)
- Stefan (P2OP). Anna (Nursery)
- Ahmed (P5LW). Dylan (P7BM)
- Ava (P7MM). Ruben (P6JD)
- Donal (P5BY).

Continued good wishes and prayers are being said for our P7 pupils as they continue with examinations.

Just do your best! I think you're fab, no matter what! 🌟

So much more

You, dear child, are so much more,
Than a number, a percentage 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.

P7 YOGA, MINDFULNESS, RELAXATION & AROMATHERAPY

November 25th, 2022

Congratulations and well done to P7BM on a wonderful Anti-Bullying assembly for Years 6&7.



There's been a lot going on in the last week.. library trips, outdoor learning, Mandarin lessons and random acts of kindness! How blessed we are at St Bride's!

We would love if you could join us for your child's performance, details below.

Classes	Date & Time	Venue
P1 Wynne & Toal	Thursday 1 st Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P1 Merron & Shankelton	Friday 2 nd Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P2 Meehan & O'Prey	Tuesday 6 th Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P2 O'Doherty Greene & Phoenix	Wednesday 7 th Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P3 Leggett & McDermott	Thursday 8 th Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P3 Lynne & McNamee	Friday 9 th Dec 1.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P4 Molloy & McMahon	Monday 12 th Dec 2.15pm	Denryvoigie Hall
P4 McCloskey & Gray	Tuesday 13 th Dec 2.15	Denryvoigie Hall
Nursery	Tuesday 13 th Dec 9.30am	Nursery Classrooms
P5-7 Classes	Friday 16 th Dec 11am	St Brigid's Church
Orchestra Recital	Monday 19 th Dec 1.30pm	Ashleigh Hall

To aid the smooth running of these performances, you co-operation is sought for the following:

- **Two seats** are available per child – that is two adults plus any toddlers on knees etc
- if you are recording the show, it must be for **personal use** only. Video performances cannot be uploaded to your personal social media as this will contravene safeguarding protocols. Not all families have consented to social media use, and you may be vulnerable to complaint if you proceed against this advice.
- Please **NEVER** name your child or any other child on social media.
- At the end of the performances, children will return to class to change. **Adults must wait in the hall for safeguarding reasons.** When the class is ready, families will be invited to collect the children from their usual pick-up points.
- Please do not take any child home without first having informed a member of school staff.
- Y5-7 children will return to class after the Carol Service.
- As we try to support those in need this Christmas, our P7 children will be collecting your 'loose change' to donate to St Vincent DePaul at each show. Please give what you can.

Thank you so much for your support.

We hope you enjoy our shows!

Looking ahead... Dates for your diaries:

An email was sent to all families with dates and venues for upcoming Christmas shows. Please be sure to read your letter.

👁️👁️ Looking ahead... Dates for your diaries

📅 P3 Sacrament of First Penance:

Tuesday 7th March 4pm: P3 McNamee & Lynn

Wednesday 8th March 4pm: P3 McDermott & Leggett

📅 P7 Sacrament of Confirmation

Tuesday 21st March 4pm: P7 Maguire & Cunningham

Tuesday 21st March 6pm: P7 Marttila & Montague

📅 P4 Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Saturday 13th May 10am: P4 Gray & McIlroy

Saturday 13th May 12noon: P4 McCloskey & McMahon



Charitable Works & Social Justice...

P3 classes are in the process of putting together a 'shoebox collection' of essential hygiene & other items to help support Belfast's homeless community this Christmas.

Huge thanks to Ciaran from Belfast Welcome Organisation for chatting to P3 to help them understand the issues and to Ms Hickey for the contact.



Staff Training...

Thank you to Anthony Sinclair (Sign Source) who led our fantastic team of classroom assistants through a Deaf Awareness workshop and introduction to British Sign Language. We look forward to a continuing partnership and more training with Anthony long into the future.

Keeping warm on PE Days.. Families, there have been a few enquiries about the possibility of purchasing St Bride's hoodies for wear as part of PE uniform. Conscious of the pressures on families in this cost of living crisis, I'm happy that families make a decision which best suits their circumstances. You may wish to purchase the branded hoodie from Niblocks, the St Bride's sports hoodie from Bourke Sports or a plain, unbranded navy hoodie from any supermarket or retailer. The important issue is that our children are comfortable and warm. Thank

you for your support and understanding. Reminder: please ensure all items of uniform are clearly marked with the child's name. **Thank you!**



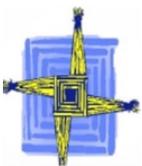
St Bride's PS staff are always **here to help and support** all families.

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.

We will be collecting 'loose change' donations for **SVDP** at all of our Christmas performances to support the work of our local Conference and those in need. Please give what you can.

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 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.

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.



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**.

We are now also on **Instagram @stbridesps...** please give us a follow if you can!



Have you moved house, changed 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!**



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:

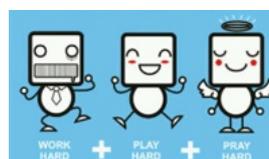
- **Parking:** I appreciate and have witnessed the difficulties associated to traffic management, however, I respectfully request that parents adhere to road markings, **avoid using staff carpark areas, refrain from blocking school or residents' gates**, zigzag crossing lines etc and instead park **responsibly**, 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 📌
Monday 28th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am 📖 P6McA Library Visit 👤 Mandarin Lessons 🎵 Clarinet Lessons 👤 Miniversity - Ashleigh Site 🎭 Drama (Many Faces) 👯 Irish Dancing - DV Hall 🏀 Girls' Gaelic - Ashleigh 	<p>📌 Remember to book school meals by Sunday for the week ahead.</p>
Tuesday 29th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am 🙏 Mass P7BM & MM 🌟 Superhero Gaelic Coaching 👤 Mandarin Lessons 🎵 Brass & Cello Lessons 🎨 Arts & Crafts Club - DV Site 🇫🇷 French (Derryvolgie Front Entrance) 🤸 Gymnastics MR Sports - DV Hall 🏀 Playball After-School Club - Ashleigh 🎵 Orchestra & Brass Ensemble 🎵 	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Follow us on twitter</p> <p>@StBridesPS1</p> <p>to keep up with all that goes on in our school!</p> </div>
Wednesday 30th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am 🎵 Violin Lessons 🏊 P7 Swimming - Queens PEC 👤 P7 Medics in School Programme 📌 P3 DfI Road Safety Walks 🏏 Hurling & Camogie - St Brigid's ⚽ Soccer MR Sports - DV Hall 🇫🇷 French (Derryvolgie Front Entrance) 	<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>
Thursday 1st December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am 🎵 Viola & Percussion lessons 📌 P3 DfI Road Safety Walks 📄 P5 Young Enterprise Workshops 🏀 Basketball Coaching 🎄 P1W & P1T Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall 🗣️ School Counsellor Sessions 📱 P6TM Adobe Express Workshop 🏀 Basketball Club - Ashleigh Hall 🏃 Cross-Country Training 	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>REMEMBER ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK</p> </div>
Friday 2nd December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am 🎵 Flute lessons 👤 Santa Hat Daily Mile Run 📄 P5 Young Enterprise Workshops 🧠 P5 Healthy Minds Workshops 🎄 P1M & P1S Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall 🧘 P7 Mindfulness Sessions 👤 Judo DV Hall 🧘 Yoga (Ashleigh Hall) 🇫🇷 Irish Lessons (DV Front Entrance) 	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>